



Petition calls for protection

More than 30,000 citizens and students pledge support against old-growth logging

Danielle Pope

A petition of over 30,000 signatures calling for Premier Gordon Campbell to end old-growth logging on Vancouver Island was displayed at the Victoria Legislature on Thursday, Jan. 8, and proved that citizens are watching.

The petition, spearheaded by the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, urged that along with protecting the Island's remaining old-growth forests, the B.C. government take steps to ensure sustainable second-growth logging and ban raw log exports to protect the province's forestry jobs.

"Vancouver Island has some of the most exceptional forests on the planet," said Victoria's Wilderness Committee campaign director Ken Wu. "How many jurisdictions still have trees that are as wide as living rooms, as tall as skyscrapers and can live to almost 2,000 years old?"

Wu told media and onlookers at the petition's display that satellite photos now show that over 75 per cent of the original productive old-growth forest on Vancouver Island has been cut down, while only six per cent of old-growth forests are in protected parks. But protection isn't the only concern.

"We've seen a huge increase in our log exports on this government's turf, and we want to see that cut way back," said Port Alberni-Qualicum NDP MLA Scott Fraser, who was also present at the petition's display. "[But] the idea that jobs be moved away across the border with those logs is out of the question."

Fraser and the NDP Opposition intends to introduce the petition into the B.C. Legislature during the February legislative sessions. He hopes the BC Liberals will commit to a comprehensive plan that will ensure the forests survive for future generations.

But Fraser, the Wilderness Committee and Island residents aren't asking for an old-growth miracle — they're calling for a phase-out plan.

"Our goal is not to end all of the logging tomorrow," Wu said. "We understand that a lot of the industry is still structured toward old growth. That's why we're calling for a retooling of the industry

and a graduated phase-out of old-growth logging from Vancouver Island."

Wu said the committee's goal is to get Campbell to agree to immediate bans on the south and east sides of the Island where only one per cent of old growth remains, and all valley bottoms where only 10 per cent remains.

For the rest of the Island, the petition asks to see a graduated phase-out by 2015.

"Similar to climate change initiatives, nobody is saying don't use oil tomorrow — that can't happen," Wu said. "We believe we can have a win-win situation for Vancouver Island's forests, for the environment and for the workers."

Charlotte Barrow, a UVic graduate and assistant to the campaign, said the issue should hold a strong importance to all residents, but especially UVic students.

"One of the best things about being a UVic student is that you have such a beautiful campus, and surrounding area," Barrow said. "The ability to go hiking is important, and some of the closest places to UVic are old growth."

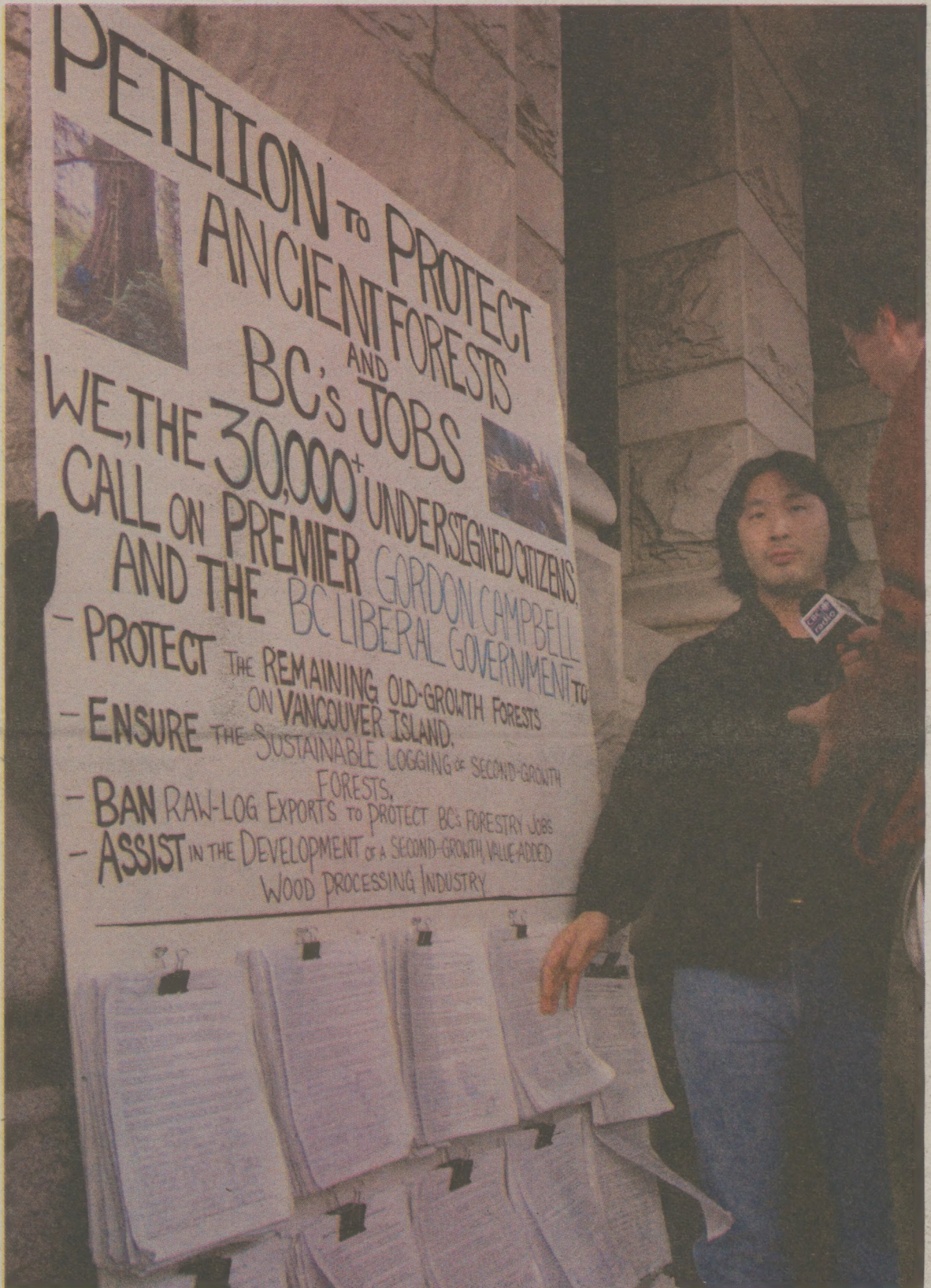
Wu isn't surprised by the number of signatures on the petition, or the support it's been generating — from as close as UVic to as far away as England and Korea. But will people and politicians see this as a key issue in coming months? Wu points out that signatures are still coming in right now.

"We know we're in the far majority of public opinion now," said Wu. "Capitalism has cycles and we're in the bottom of one. But it will recover ... and we still have the opportunity to do it right."

The issue of old-growth logging has also seen a rise in attention over the last year.

While most of the 30,000 signatures on the petition were collected over two years online and by way of hundreds of volunteers, UVic's own Wilderness Committee Club took part in organizing one of the largest environmental rallies in B.C.'s history, drawing almost 3,000 people to the B.C. Legislature on Oct. 25, 2008.

Wu estimates that UVic students contributed about 6,000 of the scribbled signatures to the petition, or 20 per cent. He's thankful



ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

Ken Wu, campaign director for Victoria's chapter of the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, talks to media about the importance of preserving Vancouver Island's old-growth forests. Over 30,000 signatories agree.

for the support.

"There are a tremendous number of UVic students, and they are the revolution," Wu said.

"We're in one of the most progressive places in B.C., and we all have a stake in the matter, [but] thank god for the students,"

To get involved with the UVic chapter of the Western Canada Wilderness Committee Club contact uvicwilderness@gmail.com.

UVSS electoral policy questioned by members

Kailey Willetts

Changes in the UVic Student Society election policy might force candidates running as independents to campaign at a disadvantage, say some board members.

Three motions with policy changes proposed at the Jan. 12 UVSS board meeting were of particular concern.

The first motion added mass messaging via social networking sites to a list of prohibited meth-

ods of mass communication, such as listserves.

David Foster, the Access UVic rep, and board member Erin Lacharity opposed the motion on the grounds of free speech.

"Access would like to see an open election," said Foster.

Another motion that was passed removed a stipulation from electoral policy, saying that candidates could not campaign within 50 metres of the polling stations. Candidates may now campaign

without this restriction.

However, campaigning within sound of a polling station is still prohibited, as per the policies.

"Metres are really long," UVSS Chair Caitlin Meggs told the board. Director of Finance Tracy Ho said that once 50 metres from all polling stations had been mapped out, very little space on campus was left for campaigning, most of which is where the First Peoples House is now being built.

UVSS Director-at-Large Dylan Hardie ran as one of the two independents elected in the last election.

He recommended that 50 metres be reduced to 15 or 20, or that blackout areas be implemented, rather than removing the distance restriction altogether.

"By removing that 50 metres you can have literally someone standing [around the corner]," said Hardie.

See Fairness, p. 2

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"Access would like to see an open election"

— David Foster, Access UVic rep

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This week in Martlet history

Jan. 21, 1965 — UVic's Anthropology and Sociology Society, Biology Club and Geography Club sponsored a conference, scheduled for March, on the population explosion crisis.

Notable speakers, including Murray Gendell from Geneva (a colleague of renowned sociologist Kingsley Davis), were to examine the social values of modern society that contributed to the population problem, as well as how overpopulation could be solved.

Donald E. Bell, president of the Anthropology and Sociology Society, said that the conference would arouse much interest since the population explosion is a topic of vital concern.

Jan. 19, 1984 — Famed American foreign policy critic Noam Chomsky signed up to give three public lectures in the University Centre Auditorium on topics ranging from "The Middle East and the Threat of Nuclear War" to "The Manufacture of Consent."

Roger Beehler, head of the Philosophy department which sponsored Chomsky, hinted that he might talk about his recent books. Chomsky's book, *The Fateful Triangle: the United States, Israel and the Palestinians*, documented Is-

raeli military, economic and diplomatic policies towards Palestinians and suggested that the most likely arena of nuclear superpower confrontation would be the Mideast.

Jan. 16, 2003 — Students set up camp in tree forts constructed 10-metres above ground in Cunningham Woods, the last forested area within Ring Road.

The tree-sitters were protesting the clear-cutting of old-growth trees to make way for the new Island Medical Facilities building, and vowed not to leave their tree-top perches unless UVic administration would commit to permanently protecting all greenspaces on campus. Such spaces included Mystic Vale, the Gerry Oak Meadows and what remained of Cunningham Woods.

Ingmar Lee, a spokesperson for the group of tree-sitters, lamented the creep of invasive ivy species along the forest floor and called it another example of ecological mismanagement on the part of UVic administration. In return, the assistant director of campus security, Ken Morrison, asked the tree sitters about safety precautions and told them he would be keeping an eye on them.

— Cody Willett



Stories from the Martlet archives

Continued from p. 1

Fairness of proposed electoral policy debated by the board

He said candidates on slates (parties) can cover more polling stations than an independent, handing out leaflets with their entire slates' names on it right as students go in to vote.

Foster proposed the motion be tabled until better policy could be written, adding that sight and sound are subjective.

One motion which didn't pass would have allowed candidates to mention the names of other candidates from their slates in their campaign material. Currently, candidates can reference their slate, but not other candidates.

Hardie strongly opposed this motion.

"Simply put, the average slate is 14 people and the independent is one," he said.

Hardie said that, theoretically, a candidate for chair could have his or her name on the entire slate's material. Because policy restricts the number of leaflets and banners a candidate can put out, Hardie says this could give slate members a significant advantage.

"Suddenly it becomes not just 500 leaflets," Hardie said. "If I ran

for chair I'd have my name on my three banners and 500 leaflets. [But one person] could have her name on 42 banners [and] 7,000 leaflets."

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"Every political system that I know of has people who run together and people who work together."

— Caitlin Meggs,
UVSS Chair

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Meggs said the point of the motions wasn't to make things more difficult for independent candidates, but to make better, more clear policies.

"The intention of it was ... to say that people can refer to their slate and people on their slate but not to people on other slates," said Meggs.

One issue that came up was "chalkboarding."

Meggs said last year an arbitrary rule was created quickly to determine whether or not writing on classroom chalkboards was included in the classification of campaign materials.

Candidates were allowed to reference slate members while chalkboarding if boxes separated the candidates' names.

Last election, Meggs ran with Team Fast, though several Team Fast members elected as Directors-at-Large voted against the motion to allow the mention of other candidates.

"First of all, I'm not opposed to slates," said Team Fast mem-

ber Brodie Metcalfe, who voted against the motion. "I think a lot of it had to do with a bit of misunderstanding."

Metcalfe went on to explain that he hadn't realized the extent of the problems created by the ambiguity of the current policy, and that he thought the only issue was that it was slightly annoying to see campaigning on chalkboards in various classrooms around campus.

"Afterward, I was informed there was actually a lot more stuff going on that I wasn't aware of," said Metcalfe, noting the policy would be revisited.

Meggs said voters have the right to know who is running together, and that slates themselves don't give candidates an unfair advantage.

"Every political system that I know of has people who run together and people who work together," Meggs said. "I think it's only fair for students to know that Caitlin and Tracy work together on the same ticket."

Meggs added that all candidates have the option to form a slate or to run as an independent.

"There are advantages to running in a slate for sure, but they aren't unfair advantages," said Meggs. "They're strategic advantages."

She also added that candidates from the same slate don't necessarily all vote the same way, as was proven at the last board meeting.

All three motions were put forward by Ho based on recommendations by the organizational development committee.

Members of Team Fast currently hold the four executive positions of Director of Finance, Director of Academics, Director of Services and Chair.

Seven out of 11 Directors-at-Large are also Team Fast members.

Another slate, Students for Students, won two positions within the Directors-at-Large — the same as the number of independents who won.



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THE MARTLET



GOT RADIO?

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This week our team gets personal with religion and religious tolerance. Next show is 10am Wednesday, January 28th and every second Wednesday thereafter.

GOT AMBITION?

Is your inner radio journalist itching to get involved? For volunteer opportunities e-mail radio@martlet.ca just as you are, no experience necessary!

GOT THEME MUSIC?

We are now accepting submissions for our theme song contest. Bring a CD with original music by you or your band to the Martlet office by January 31st. The winning entry will be catchy, exciting, about one minute long, and played at the beginning and end of every show.

Workshop a forum for taboo questions

Tough Questions For Religion series will challenge students to face misunderstandings

Danielle Pope

If you've got controversial questions about religion, get ready to have them answered head-on.

UVic's Interfaith Services has collaborated with other sectors of the university to sponsor panel discussions over the next three months on some of the toughest questions religions are faced with today.

The lecture series, titled "Tough Questions for Religions: A University of Victoria Forum," will be held every Tuesday from Jan. 20 to March 17, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Three expert panelists will take on heated questions each session, with topics ranging from whether or not religions are inherently violent, to how religions discriminate against women, to if religions are mutually exclusive or not.

"In our culture, there are labels placed on people who practice their faith," said Henri Lock, a chaplain at UVic's Interfaith services and one of the main organizers of the event. "We wanted to know if people in those traditions could answer for those tough questions. And we wanted to get the dialogue going."

Lock, who teaches meditation practices at the chapel, said the objective of the series is for participants to start understanding the layers of diversity among religions, and for people to feel empowered to ask the unanswered questions that create misunderstandings.

In spring of 2008, an article in the Martlet that accused the Qur'an of inciting violence helped to spur the Tough Questions series by opening heated debates across the campus community.

Andrew Rippin, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and a professor of History at UVic, was involved in the initial discussions that occurred about creating a seminar series after the Qur'an article appeared. Rippin will be moderating the panels, ensuring that the questions asked of the panelists are in the spirit of constructive dialogue, and that panelists are frank with their answers.

"It is often felt that religious peo-

ple are not direct and forthcoming about the problems that religions have created in the world," said Rippin. "But there's also the feeling that there is a tendency not to ask difficult questions of religious people, whether that be out of a sense of being polite or through self-censorship."

Rippin said that while the goal of the series is to start dialogue, he believes it's just as much to prove that it is possible to have reasonable and considerate discussions on topics about religion without being antagonistic or avoiding the facts.

"The idea is not, in my opinion, to get people to change their minds about any given religion, but to show that religious people are intelligent and that they tangle with how to make sense of these sorts of difficult questions [themselves]," Rippin said.

Rippin believes that while some people might be opposed to the ideas they associate with certain religions, this will open an avenue for discussing difficult topics in a safe and informed environment — whether those topics cover polygamy in Bountiful, teaching "intelligent design," or allowing same-sex marriage.

Karima Ramji, an Ishmaili Muslim and a member of the Victoria Multifaith Society, was invited to participate as a panelist on the topics of discrimination against women in religion.

"When left unexplored, these tough questions provide avenues for misinterpretation," said Ramji, who is currently the International Co-ordinator for UVic's Co-operative Education Program. "Religion does not exist in a vacuum. Rather, one needs to look at religion within the context in which it exists and is practiced."

Ramji hopes that the workshop will be one way of promoting understanding and respect for religions and for people who hold differing views — "whether religious or secular."

"As students go through their academic careers and their professional careers, they are bound to come into contact with people



JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Dean of Humanities Andrew Rippin says starting an open dialogue about religion can cure misconceptions.

who belong to one faith group or another," Ramji said. "This workshop will go a long way toward promoting their understanding of this topic."

A keynote session on Jan. 20 given by speaker Michael Ingham, an Anglican Bishop of New Westminster, will tackle the topic "When religion goes bad."

In the days following the Tuesday panel sessions, Interfaith Services will be hosting follow-up events to allow for additional discussions on the topics.

Lock emphasizes that the seminars are not about "convincing" people that any religion is "right," nor are they any sort of attempt to

recruit members. But, he says, the Tough Questions series is especially important now, as "diversity is the order of the day."

"The world is much more diverse and complex than one truth only," Lock said. "Saying 'I'm the only one who's right' is a non-starter. Look at nature and see the diversity there. If we can come to an understanding we can build a better community. There is wisdom to be shared all around."

Sarah Stang, a second-year History major, has been involved with the event through UVic's work-study program. Stang said that students are often averse to talking about religion, even in an

environment like university, which should be open to promoting questions and thought. She believes the series will get people talking and finally generating their own important discussions.

"It's our hope that the speakers will be able to rise to the questions," Stang said. "All religions have a dark side, but hopefully [the panelists] can admit to the shortcomings and show the positives too. It's going to be interesting. Religion affects everybody, even if they don't know it."

For lecture locations and more information on the panelists, visit uvic.ca/interfaith/tough-questions.



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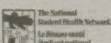
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UVic signs revised letter

News reviews

Kat Eschner

Signed copies of the redrafted Government Letters of Expectation (GLEs) have been released by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development.

Though the Ministry website continues to say that the letters have been removed pending the posting of signed copies, UVic spokesperson Patty Pitts confirmed that the GLEs on the website are the second drafts.

Difficulties with the initial letter stemmed from its perceived commanding tone. B.C.'s "Big 4" universities (UVic, University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University and University of Northern B.C.) collectively refused to sign. But, the Ministry and Board of Governor chairs cooperated to produce a rewritten letter over the summer.

As reported in October, UVic Chair Ray Protti called the revision process "quite harmonious." His signature appears on the new letter.

The Confederation of University Faculty Associations of British Columbia (CUFA-BC) released an analysis of the original GLE in June of last year. Spokesperson Robert Clift said about half of their concerns were directly addressed in the revised letter. Overall his response to the revised GLE was positive.

"In general, the letter overall much more closely reflects the actual relationship between the

government and the universities, as opposed to assuming the universities are direct agents of government," said Clift.

While the redrafted letter is not significantly different in content from the original letter, some sections have been reworded. Greater emphasis is placed on the separate roles of universities as autonomous institutions and the government as a funder, and references to the trades have been removed.

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"It's still a little bit irritating for government to have made decisions in these respects"

— Robert Clift, spokesperson for The Confederation of University faculty Assn. of B.C.

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"I'm sure what's happened ... is that someone came up with a cookie-cutter approach and just plugged in names ... The letters weren't appropriate for the universities as a result," Clift said.

Clift described CUFA-BC's unaddressed concerns, such as the Naming Privileges Policy and Healthier Choices in Vending Machines in British Columbia Public Buildings Policy as irritants rather than pressing issues.

"It's not clear from the University Act that [these are] necessarily a violation of our autonomy ... it's still a little bit irritating for government to have made decisions in these respects," Clift said. "But it's not fatal, because we would have done these things anyway."

However, Clift said a remaining major concern was the fact that the new universities (University of the Fraser Valley, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Vancouver Island University, Capilano University and Emily Carr University of Art and Design), though under the University Act, were still under the old letter.

"Certainly in talking to the Ministry we are going to insist that all institutions under the University Act will have similar letters that fully respect the mandates under the Act," he said.

In the past, Protti expressed a positive view toward the revision process and future university government interactions. Likewise, Clift expressed a fairly positive view of the process.

"Come April, we're going to be in discussions with the Ministry to try and remove any lingering irritants," Clift said. "But the main things are gone."

YAY!

Tuition is no higher than it was eight years ago, according to a new report by the Educational Policy Institute.

When inflation and education tax credits and rebates are taken into account, what the average student pays for tuition is actually going down in B.C. and all but three provinces. In Manitoba, students are effectively being paid \$51 per month to attend university. In B.C., full-time students had access to an average of \$1,783 in tax credits for the 2007-2008 school year. The average tuition including ancillary fees was \$5,475 for the same period. That means the real tuition was just \$3,692.

Many students also receive grants and have portions of their student loans relieved, which further offsets the cost.

Many students also receive grants and have portions of their student loans relieved, which further offsets the cost.

NAY!

A study conducted by the Pew Research Centre for the People and the Press showed that more youth are getting their news from comedy programs like the Colbert Report and the Daily Show than from serious news sources like Fox News (if you can consider that serious), CNN

and their local newspaper. Even more shocking was that the people getting their news from these shows actually had a better knowledge and understanding of current affairs than those getting their news from more traditional sources. What news source

provides people with the least knowledge of current affairs? Network morning shows. Sorry, Regis and Kelly.

YAY!

The Martlet was recognized for

three national student journalism awards from the John H. McDonald Journalism Foundation.

This year, judges chose from over 350 entries in nine categories. Martlet Production Co-ordinator Jodie Thomson received first place in the Layout and Design category for her feature design of "Reconciling gender and sex."

Samantha Magnus, Martlet radio co-host, was awarded third in Investigative Journalism for her feature "Botching biology." Martlet Editor-in-Chief Danielle Pope also took third in News Writing for her story "Empty shelves prompt call for help." The Johnnies have been recognizing excellence in student journalism since 2003.

—Sam Vanschie and Kailey Willetts



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Protest over Gaza taken to the street

Israel and Palestine supporters stand side by side at rally to express views on hot conflict

Cody Willett

Simon Fraser University student Yotam Dar proudly held Israel's flag on Jan. 10 at Victoria's Inner Harbour and stood amid protesters rallying against the Israeli operation in Gaza.

He wasn't alone. Half of the 200-strong crowd waved signs and sang hymns in support of Israel's incursion into the Gaza strip that's killed hundreds of Palestinians — many of them civilians.

Dar, an Israeli studying in Canada, said he wasn't fazed by the protesters that were denouncing his homeland.

"It is important to realize that our struggle is not against the Palestinian people. It's against Hamas, that took over Gaza in a military, violent and brutal coup against their own brothers and sisters," Dar said. "People tend to say it's like pro-Israeli, pro-Palestinian. I don't look at it like that at all. I look at it as pro-peace and pro-terrorism."

Dar said that supporters of Israel were getting the message out that moderators and extremists exist on both sides and that Israel's actions in Gaza amount to an effort to eliminate extremists in Hamas.

Dar also stressed that Israeli forces were trying not to hurt civilians.

"The fact that Israel has better bomb shelters doesn't mean the Palestinians are shooting less," said Dar before pointing out that Hamas was entrenching itself within the civilian population.

"When Hamas militants are using women and children as human shields, what can Israel do?"

On the topic of children, Dar suggested that in the lead-up to the war in Gaza an empty kindergarten in southern Israel had been hit by rockets.

"Israel doesn't need to apologize. [It] can protect its citizens," he said.

Dar insisted Hamas couldn't be a partner in peace, as the organization's charter calls for the destruction of Israel.

"[Hamas is] not interested in a dialogue that will lead to a two-state solution," said Dar. "The goal is to have two democratic states



CODY WILLETT PHOTO

Supporters of Israeli military action in Gaza take up visible positions in front of the tent housing protesters denouncing Israel on loudspeakers.

living in harmony, one by the other ... I want the Palestinians to be my neighbours."

Meanwhile, speakers and microphones several feet away blared statistics on how many of those potential civilian neighbours had been killed so far.

Matt Loewen, a third-year UVic student and member of Students for a Democratic Society said that there couldn't be peace if Israel continued to bomb schools and shoot medics — something he says has been documented. Loewen also said that Palestinian lives have been destroyed by living in what he calls an "open air prison" for decades.

"Kids are dying and Canada's not doing anything about it," said Loewen. "By coming out here I'm trying to help create a politicized base of citizens who can ... with a larger voice, [put] pressure on our government to put pressure on Israel by levying sanctions against them."

However, Loewen wasn't hopeful that the Canadian government would take a meaningful stance.

"If [Canada] speaks out against Israel then we're not going to be

able to do business with them," he said. "Our politicians are looking at this with a dollar sign in front of their eyes."

According to Loewen, the rally's aim was to show disgust at what's happening in Gaza and to use that disgust as a catalyst to educate the public about what's going on. He encourages others to sign onto letters that can be found on the Amnesty International website and to write the Canadian government and the United Nations.

"Real Canadians — regardless of what our government might say — we actually care about other people. We care about the humanity and we reject the fact that

apathy has become part of normal politics," said Loewen. "Talk to other people about these issues because if people aren't talking about these issues then they disappear."

Second-year UVic student Nellie Salter stood near a sign that lamented the military action and said that as a Christian she felt like she might be on the wrong side of the protest, not supporting Israel. But the native of Summerland, B.C., reasoned that she would stand against Israel to support the anti-war stance and promote peace.

"I feel like I should be right in the middle of everyone, joining everyone together and sort of giving hugs all around, saying we're on the

same side — we're all anti-war," Salter said.

Salter thinks the focus needs to come back to Judaism's peaceful teachings because that part of the religion has been trammelled by the task of protecting the Jewish homeland.

She also thinks things could change if both sides could find it within themselves to apologize to each other.

"At some point, someone's got to be the bigger man," said Salter. "I think it would take an incredible amount of maturity from both sides — just a swallowing of their pride. That would be revolutionary."

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Canada's Next Great Prime Minister could be in your class

Annual CBC show for Canadians ages 18 to 25 comes with top prize of \$50,000 and a paid internship

Kim Magi

If you think young people don't have a national voice, one UVic student will change your mind.

First-year political science and environmental studies student Emmy Marshall-Hill is competing in the CBC competition *Canada's Next Great Prime Minister*, a contest for Canadians ages 18 to 25.

The competition started in 1995 as an essay contest but has since evolved, with contestants answering questions through online video posts and creating their own websites for their campaigns.

In November, the contestants were asked what they would do to make Canada a stronger country socially, economically and politically.

"It took a lot of research and a lot of time," said Marshall-Hill, who had to answer the question via a video post on the contest's website. "Whatever we do to improve our lives socially, economically and politically must be guided by two key principals. First, we must not harm our mother earth, and second, we must begin to think and plan in generations not in years."

Other parts of her platform include

more funding for French immersion, encouraging Canada to continue promoting peaceful conflict resolution, and, with co-operation from all provinces and territories, to have students reap the benefits of higher amounts of state-paid tuition so students can afford (and be encouraged) to study.

Starting with 180 contestants, the competition is about to be whittled down to just eight on Jan. 16.

The judges, consisting of former Prime Ministers and acting Premiers, decide the top eight who will then fly to Toronto from Feb. 6 to 8 for "political boot camp." According to Marshall-Hill, only the contestant in first place at the time of the top eight decision gets paid air fare to Toronto — the other seven have to get there on their own money or fundraising. From there, the top four will be selected to be on the show.

Currently, Marshall-Hill on the contest's Top 10 Leaders Board, which is decided based on the campaigning that each contestant has done thus far.

"It's a great honour," she said, adding that she thinks one of her biggest assets was her ability to memorize and present her answers to each question, as opposed to



TRISHA GIENI PHOTO

Emmy Marshall-Hill might be Canada's Next Great Prime Minister.

many of the other contestants who simply read off a piece of paper.

However, Marshall-Hill hasn't spread the word about her in-

volvement in the competition on her own.

"My mom especially has been my mini-campaign manager," she said. "She sent out e-mails to all her friends ... asking them to go to the website to vote [for me]."

Having just turned 18 at the end of December, Marshall-Hill is one of the youngest competitors.

"It's my greatest strength and my greatest challenge," she said, explaining that some of the older contestants have more experience than her, which means she often

has to do more research. During the course of the competition so far, she has kept in contact with last year's winner, Alike Lafontaine.

The winner of the competition receives a \$50,000 prize, as well as a paid internship with Magna International (the main sponsor of the show), The Dominion Institute and the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program. Second, third and fourth place winners receive a cash prize of \$5,000, as well as internships.

Being the youngest of five, Marshall-Hill has learned to get people's attention. On Dec. 7, as part of the contest's "community events" facet, Marshall-Hill hosted a Random Acts of Kindness Day. She and seven friends from her residence building took part.

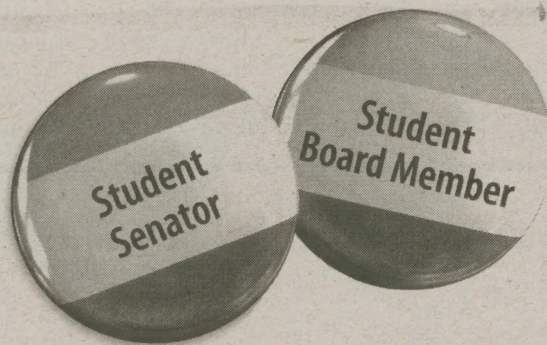
"I made little stockings ... I filled them with candy and lip gloss and other things and handed them out to my friends," she said. Marshall-Hill said she chose to do Random Acts of Kindness day because "people remember the random act of kindness and they pass it on."

One of Marshall-Hill's friends that took part in the day, first-year Business student Ella Dalling, visited every room in her residence building, writing Merry Christmas messages on each door.

"I thought she had a good [idea by holding this event], and it was Christmas time, the time of giving and letting everyone know that you appreciate them as a friend," said Dalling. "[Marshall-Hill is] so passionate about [the competition]."

Canada's Next Great Prime Minister airs Mar. 18 on CBC. To keep up dated with the contest and to see if Marshall-Hill makes the top eight, go to cbc.ca/nextprimeminister.

UVSS AND GSS MEMBERS



Call for nominations GET INVOLVED IN GOVERNING UVIC!

16 students to be elected to the Senate

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2 students to be elected to the Board of Governors

(1 year term)

For more information about the Senate and the Board of Governors, please visit the University Secretary's website at: web.uvic.ca/univsec

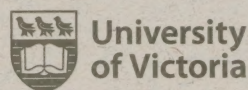
Nominations close Tuesday, February 3, 2009

Nomination papers must be signed by no fewer than three students eligible to vote, other than the candidate, and by the candidate. Pick up your nomination form at any of these locations:

- Administrative Services Building, Room A138
- Student Union Building, Room B103
- Graduate Students' Centre, outside Room 102

A nomination paper is not valid unless it is received in Administrative Services Building, Room A138, no later than 4:30 p.m., on Tuesday, February 3, 2009.

All voting for students to the Senate and Board of Governors will be processed online, via the WebVote System. No paper ballots will be used for this election.



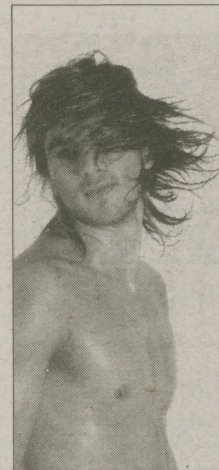
CIVICS SPIELS

“

"To both sides, I say: just stop, now.
Too many people have died."

— UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon
at a press conference about Gaza on Jan. 12

”



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Budget determines Harper's future

Scott Daly

The resumption of Parliament on Jan. 26 has government and opposition MPs gearing up for what could be a showdown over the budget.

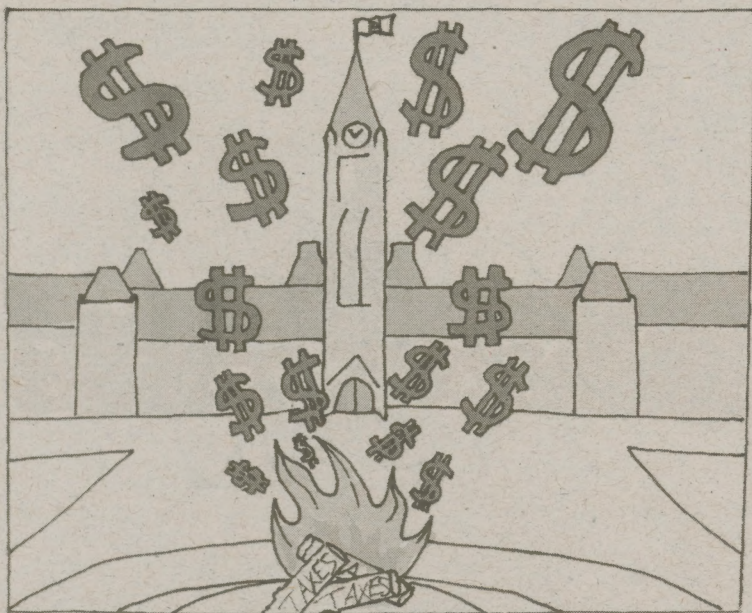
With the economy sputtering and the prospect of a coalition government ready to replace the current one, the life of the existing government will depend on its ability to satisfy the demands of the opposition parties.

The opposition's hand was recently strengthened by an agreement reached in December to form a rare coalition government with members from the Liberal and NDP caucuses filling the government benches. Under the agreement, the leader of the Liberal Party, which is now Michael Ignatieff, would become Prime Minister.

However, for the coalition to come about, the current governing party must first lose the confidence of the House of Commons. The budget, which is due to be presented by Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty on Jan. 28, will likely determine whether or not the conservative government survives.

Prime Minister Harper avoided the defeat of the highly partisan economic statement presented in November by asking the Governor General to prorogue Parliament, to which she agreed.

Since then, the government has been quickly putting together a massive budget with an estimated deficit of between \$30 billion and \$40 billion in an attempt to appease the opposition.



CODY WILLETT GRAPHIC

Victoria NDP MP Denise Savoie says that while she will consider the content of the budget before deciding how to vote, she does not think that the Harper government has changed its policies enough to gain her confidence or that of the House of Commons.

"I don't think that Mr. Harper has had a personality change or changed his mind about where to take the country," said Savoie. "Being in a difficult economic position, we have to make sure that economic decisions are made in the public interest. The government has already wasted too much time by proroguing Parliament just to save Mr. Harper's skin."

Savoie also said that, among other things, she wants to see a detailed economic stimulus package worth the equivalent of two per cent of the Canadian GDP in-

cluded in the budget.

Ignatieff has his own demands, saying that he expects to see provisions made to protect the most vulnerable members of society, as well as to protect investments in infrastructure, competitiveness and productivity.

The last few weeks have seen the government take a decidedly more conciliatory tone toward opposition parties, trying to get opposition input into the budget to ensure its passage. Harper has been appealing for co-operation in the drafting of the budget.

"Now is the time for everybody to try and reach consensus if that's possible, but especially to try and work together — federally, provincially, internationally, across party lines — to deal with the problems that everybody knows are urgent and large," said Harper.

Lost news from 2008

Stuart Armstrong

Old 2008 was a newsworthy year. Little surprise, then, that stories like the ones that follow were lost amid the din of Obamamania and the Olympics.

Russian Navy plays war games

Last January the Russian Navy sent a naval task-force consisting of the Russian aircraft carrier Admiral Kuznetsov, along with 47 long-range bombers and 11 support vessels, to conduct war games off the coasts of Spain and France.

During the war games, they test-launched nuclear-capable cruise missiles, conducted tactical air-strike practices and held anti-submarine evasion drills. The activities, in conjunction with Russian naval operations off the coast of Venezuela and in the Mediterranean, demonstrate a pattern of increasingly assertive posturing by the Russian Federation.

Blindness is cured

The future for restored sight is one step closer as of April 21, 2008. According to the Daily Telegraph, that was the date when two blind British patients at Moorefields Eye Hospital in London received ocular implants placed at the back of their eyes.

The implants receive transmissions from a tiny camera in a special set of glasses that will allow them to distinguish different objects based on light levels. According to Dr. Lyndon da Cruz, the retinal surgeon who carried out the operations, more procedures will be scheduled when the

post-op evaluations of the two trial participants are completed.

Slavery still alive

There are more enslaved people now than any other period of human history. According to Foreign Policy's article in their March/April edition, "A World Enslaved" by E. Benjamin Skinner, there are some 27 million people enslaved around the world.

Mr. Skinner's source is a book by David Batstone, *From Sex Workers to Restaurant Workers, the Global Slave Trade Is Growing*, which claims that, despite 12 different international anti-slave trade treaties, the industry is thriving.

The U.S. Department of Justice admits that about 30,000 slaves pass through the U.S. annually on their way to international destinations. The FBI and the International Labour Office estimate the revenues from the trade are between \$9.5 billion and \$32 billion a year, respectively. And despite numerous arrests by Interpol, the FBI and the Japanese National Police Agency, the numbers of enslaved people are expected to grow.

Democracy comes to Europe

The last feudal state in Europe, the English Channel Island of Sark, introduced democracy to its citizens.

On Jan. 16 and Feb. 21, the Chief Pleas (legislative body), under direction of the Seigneur of Sark, dissolved Sark's feudal system and established an elected 30-member chamber.

Elections were held in December 2008, to comply with the European Convention on Human Rights.

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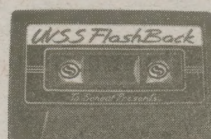
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EDITORIAL

Athletic facilities doomed to flunk

UVic wants students to fork over \$24.5 million for new athletics facilities, and the administration plans to get students to vote on whether or not to approve a \$55-per-semester athletic fee increase.

But will students buy into the idea that our athletics facilities are out of date?

After a story on the proposed facilities ran last issue, one reader commented on the Martlet website, "An extra \$55 per semester??? HELLLLLLLLL NO!" Another student stated, "who needs a rec building when we have trees to climb, grass to play on and an ocean to swim in?"

In fact, many students seem to be reasonably happy with our current facilities, even though they are getting on in age. Approximately two-thirds of UVic students use the athletics facilities, and the average UVic student does something sporty 2.9 times per week — higher than the national average of 2.7 times per week.

Apparently we're getting good use out of what we have.

As the saying goes, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Especially when fixing it would necessitate bumping student athletic fees up to \$126.50 per semester. For someone who works out year-round, that's \$380. For that kind of price, we could exercise off-campus. An annual pass for Oak Bay's athletic facilities costs \$345. Saanich charges \$285 for students, while Victoria comes in at \$254.

Even setting price aside, there's one big difference between what UVic is proposing and how Oak Bay, Saanich and Victoria operate: who has to pay for it.

Lazy people who would prefer to sit on their ass playing video games instead of lifting weights or swimming lanes don't have to pay fees for the municipalities' athletic facilities. If you work out, you get dinged, but if you're more of the couch potato type, you can spend the money on a new Xbox or beer.

But if UVic's plan carries through, every student will pay the new athletics fee, regardless of whether you ever use the campus facilities or whether you would prefer to blow that money on beer (for those doing the math, the proposed \$380 athletics fee could buy about 225 cans of Molson Canadian).

The bigger question is why the university wants students to pay for athletics facilities in the first place. After all, UVic footed the bill for a host of new buildings on campus, including the new library extension, the First Peoples House, the Earth and Ocean Sciences Building, the Social Sciences and Math Building — and the administration's new building.

In reality, students are probably paying for all of these buildings. Sure, these buildings rely partially on donations and government funding, but the university is still on the hook for a good chunk. And that cost ultimately gets passed on to the students, whose tuition has been steadily increasing since the BC Liberals lifted the province's tuition freeze in 2001.

The difference with the athletics facilities is that students will have a choice on whether or not they are willing to pay for the fee increase, whereas the university just raised tuition to fund the other buildings.

So why are athletic facilities being treated differently? Probably because the university administration doesn't want them. UVic president David Turpin probably lacks the guts to tell our varsity athletes and intramural programmers that they aren't important enough to warrant fancy new facilities, although he has been going rubber stamp crazy approving a building to house his new office, as well as buildings that will only serve a small portion of the UVic community. Turpin wants UVic students to deliver the bad news to our jocks so that he doesn't have to.

It's up to you to decide if our president gets what he wants.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting at 12:30 p.m. every Friday in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

VICTORIA'S WEATHER: A BUNNY'S DEMISE



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

How I learned to live with vampires

Dexter McMillan

There are two things that scare me more than anything in the world: really big spiders and needles.

Every 52 days on the nose, my dad goes parading around the house asking us if we want to join him on his regular trip to what he calls the "vampire clinic." He is, of course, referring to the blood donation clinic.

Every time he comes around, I go "No thanks, Dad, I would rather jump into a pit of venomous snakes," or "Sorry Dad, but I can't. My fish is on fire."

But a few months ago, I decided to join him, thinking, how bad could it really be?

I was fine until they stuck the needle into my arm. Instantly I could feel the bile rising. My delectable Sweet Greens wrap was making its way back up my esophagus. I think the nurses could sense it too, because out of nowhere they called a "code 10," and before you could say "chickened out" my feet were in the air and I was being force-fed juice. On my list of unpleasant experiences, that makes the top five.

“

I was fine until they stuck the needle into my arm. Instantly I could feel the bile rising. My delectable Sweet Greens wrap was making its way up my esophagus.

”

The blood donation clinic may have won the battle, but I was determined to win the war. Fifty-two



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

days passed, and during that time I was like Rocky on fight night. I came up with several little tricks to keep my mind off of the cold steel in my arm, and drank about a litre and a half of juice to keep my blood sugar up. I was pumped (and more than a little scared).

I sat down in the same chair as before and plugged in my iPod. I figured if Kanye couldn't keep my mind off the extremely unpleasant act of having the life juice sucked out of my arm, then nothing could.

My game plan? Listen to music, do the word puzzles on the wall and just focus on something else.

The needle slid into my arm and I felt that same nausea. It was happening again, but this time I thought about school, about work, about the lives I was hopefully saving and about the wicked weekend I'd had.

The needle must have been in my arm for about 15 minutes before I saw the nurse shaking her head. "No! I'm fine! Really!" I yelled at her, "Keep it going!" I didn't want to tell her that I couldn't feel anything in my left arm.

They pulled the needle out slowly and without a panic. As it turns out, the blood wasn't pumping fast enough for them to get a full bag. I was told that I needed to gain at least 15 more pounds before returning.

In the end, the half a pint of blood I managed to squeeze out was sent away and was hopefully enough to be used somewhere.

So I overcame my fear of needles. But I didn't do it solely because people might need it to live, or because I felt a moral obligation. I did it because of the amazing feeling that comes from overcoming a phobia. Next on the list? Spiders.

THE MARTLET

The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper

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Israeli terrorists pummel Palestine

Mohamed Ghilan

I'm writing this in case you've been more concerned with Kanye West's latest music video, or what country Brangelina are going to adopt their next child from, or you've been walking around like a zombie with your iPod set at the loudest volume.

While you haven't been paying attention, over 824 Palestinians have died and over 3,350 have been injured — and 48% of these casualties are women and children.

The latest figures at the time of writing this article are 257 children dead, and 1,080 wounded. You might not be moved by this.

Atrocities take place all over the world every day, but examine the attention they get.

What happens when there is a train or an airplane crash? The report reads the following: 10 Americans, 4 French, 7 English and several others. Who are those others? It doesn't matter. The others are lucky we even said "several others."

Now Gaza is home of the latest genocide. Let's not talk about it though — they are Palestinians. They are terrorists. They like to hide behind women and children. This whole thing is their fault. They started it. We signed a truce and they broke it, and if it wasn't for Hamas...

I don't care who did what. I don't care who started it, or who signed what treaty. And I definitely could not care any less who is an Israeli and who is a Palestinian. All I see



MARC JUNKER GRAPHIC

are two groups of people: the oppressors and the oppressed.

What's worse, is that the Israeli commanders are actually discussing their strategy with western media, which involves targeting innocent civilians.

According to an article published recently in the Toronto Star, an Israeli commander said that putting this pressure on civilians will cause the civilians to turn against Hamas.

So now comes the use of the most disgusting euphemism ever created in the English language: collateral damage.

What does that mean? Why don't they call it what it truly is — we will go in there and massacre some

women and children and a few more civilians, and hopefully this way they will turn against their own government.

You mean to tell me that the Palestinians actually elected Hamas in a democratic election, and you want the people to turn against them? Oh, I get it. You only approve democracy if it puts up a puppet government to serve your goals.

And one more thing, doesn't the UN Charter Article 51 have a point in there somewhere that guarantees a peoples' right to resist occupation and colonization? But you keep calling them terrorists.

According to the UN, they certainly don't seem to be. So what

defines a terrorist then — does killing 257 children and wounding 1,080 classify?

I thought we're all supposed to be brothers and sisters in humanity. These are your and my families. If you haven't heard, there is genocide in Gaza happening right now, and the international community remains indifferent while body parts keep flying.

“

So now comes the most disgusting euphemism ever created in the English language: collateral damage.

”

The Israeli Defence Force destroyed a school used as a shelter by women and children, and has the audacity to claim they had no idea, or that Hamas was hiding behind these innocent people.

Of course, the assumption by the IDF is that you're all sleep-walking and stupid.

Can you blame them? Not really. Chances are, you'll go back to scrolling through your iPod and raise the volume a little more.

Facebook firing a dismal forecast

Alison Wagner

I've never been fired before, but I imagine it's unpleasant.

For Crystal Bell, an esthetician from Kelowna, the pink slip came via Facebook and sparked an internet debate on the ethics of firing employees electronically. This raises questions about the legal in's and out's of letting employees go.

Let's go over the major problems here. First, according to reports, Bell was fired for missing a staff meeting on her day off.

Forgive me if I'm not seeing the whole picture, but firing an employee for missing a staff meeting seems a little extreme to me. Bell was apparently at the hospital with her mother — which is reason enough to miss a staff meeting no matter where you work or how long you've worked there.

Secondly, the employer has been quoted as saying that she just "wanted to have it dealt with that evening. I didn't want to deal with it at the shop."

Was she too impatient to hear Bell's side of the story? It certainly seems that way. A simple miscommunication and now this woman has lost her job. This is what happens when electronic means are used too eagerly.

Yes, our society is high-speed. But for crying out loud, it doesn't have to be. If the employer had remembered that her employees are actually human and not attached to the other end of an Ethernet cable, she might have handled this differently.

Bell has a life outside of being

online and outside of her work. It was her day off. She was at a hospital, where you're not allowed to have cell phones on. Furthermore, Bell had only been working at the spa for two weeks. Isn't there a trial period or something? It seems like this woman should have been given a break.

Yes, it is tacky to fire someone on Facebook, but not necessarily because it's electronic. What is tacky here is that Bell's employer cared less about her employee's reasons for missing the staff meeting than just getting it "dealt with."

When you have people working for you, it's kind of a polite gesture to care about them.

Despite the legal questions that Facebook firing raises, it's a shame that Bell cannot make a move for damages. This appears to be nothing more than an experience in how not to use technology.

Ms. Bell, should you ever read this, I'm sure you can do better than have an employer who treats her employees like deletable email. No matter how much technology has come to be part of our lives, nothing can beat interacting with people in real space. Eye contact, handshakes, the whole deal — these are irreplaceable.

If other factors were involved in Bell being fired, then the situation was not accurately reported. But from what's visible on the outside, this comes down to an ethical matter of communication. We rely a little too heavily on technology. Sometimes we just have to slow down, be patient and wait for the information to come to us.

LETTERS

Martlet offends elderly, while typos and mistakes abound

Regarding your front page article of last issue regarding older students at UVic, in particular 88-year-old Thelma Fayle.

It occurs to me that the clearly very capable Ms. Fayle could be profitably invited to "persue" typos in your cutlines (assuming, that is, you didn't offend her too much by calling her an "old dog" in the headline).

Robert Moyes
UVic alumni

Elderly students an inspiration

Congratulations Thelma, Arnold and Denis. I am so proud of you for fulfilling your dreams. You are an inspiration to future generations. Dreams do come true. From the daughter of a former Griffintowner: Maurice O'Connell.

Denis Delaney
Community member

Thrilled by recognition

Re: "University 101 helps old dogs teach themselves new tricks"

My mother Dorothy was one of the younger siblings who Aunt Thelma dropped out of school all those years ago to support.

Life was not easy in those days, but she did a terrific job of parenting her younger siblings when she herself should have been parented. I am absolutely thrilled that this gregarious old woman whom I have loved for years is having so much fun exercising and expanding her already colourful and expansive mind.

Steve Henderson
Community member

Hutterites are still around

Re: "We're having sex, not babies"

Your article says: "Long gone are the days of the Hutterites" but

that makes very little sense, as the Hutterites still exist and still have very strong growth rates.

Hutterite women tend to get married at around 25 now instead of 18, and still have three to five children on average.

The Hutterites living on colonies are still growing, although they have reached the size where they are splitting into sub-groups and in some cases colonies are changing rapidly.

Still, the underlying culture and history remains the same. The reference to Hutterites in the article seems quite out of place.

Andrew Waldner
UBC student

Embarrassed by profanity

I would like to comment on the "My Battles with granolafication" article.

I did not finish it so I could have misinterpreted its message, however I found that the amount of profanity truly turned my off reading the rest of it.

As well, as sad as it is, it made me feel embarrassed that this was published at UVic.

Alexander Floercke
Corporate Relations Director
UVic

Happy? Sad? Enraged? Engaged?

Tell us: letters@martlet.ca
The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

MELODRAMATIC MUSINGS

Faulty gaydar creates sexuality confusion

Will Johnson

People often think I'm gay.

I've never been able to pinpoint exactly what gives people this impression. Do I come off as effeminate or especially appreciative of other guys? Is it because I'm perceived as sensitive or is my personality just gay-ish?

One night, I met a girl at a party. She had dark eyes and long, dark tendrils of hair around her face. She was short and sexy, and much to my surprise seemed genuinely interested in what I had to say.

We sat on the front steps of the house, passing a beer back and forth. Behind us, a throbbing bass beat hammered the walls of the house and people continued to dance, scream and party. But on those steps, we only paid attention to one another.

I was starting to feel deliriously happy about my prospects. Whenever I said something funny, this girl would grab my leg and lean towards me, laughing. At one point she threw her arm around my shoulder and kissed me on the forehead, shaking her head and smiling.

I was going to get laid.

Then, while discussing some of her dating woes, she said, "Well, you would understand that sort of thing."

"Why do you say that?" I asked.

"Well, as a gay man..."

I didn't hear the rest of the sentence. I felt like she had slapped me in the face. She seemed oblivious and rambled on with the rest of the story. She thought I was gay? When I interrupted her to correct her on the subject of my sexuality,

a confused look crossed her face for a moment, and then came a slow dawning of realization.

Within three minutes she had excused herself to pee, leaving me alone on the front porch. I didn't see her again that night.

I'm normally flattered when people make that mistake. Most of the gay friends I have are more interesting and bizarre than their straight counterparts.

One friend of mine came out when he was in Grade 12. At a rich upper-middle-class suburban high school, I'm convinced that's one of the ballsiest things you can do.

One day, while walking down the hallway, some guy walked behind my friend and whispered repeatedly "fag, fag, fag," while he stepped on the back of my buddy's shoes and

tormented him by kicking him in the back of the knees. This sort of rampant homophobia was an everyday occurrence in my high school.

Rearing up like a disturbed elephant, my friend spun around and — Chuck Norris-style — roundhouse-kicked his tormentor in the head. The students nearby quickly scattered, leaving my buddy standing above his crumpled classmate.

"I am a proud fag," he yelled, for everyone to hear.

How bad-ass is that?

To be considered among the ranks of my gay contemporaries is hugely complimentary, though it can be annoying.

One of my gay friends continually tells me that I'm a closeted queer and that someday I'll come to terms with my sexuality and admit it.

This annoys me for a couple reasons: he assumes he knows more about me than I do, and he's telling me that my entire life is a lie.

It's true, though, when I watch movies like *Milk* or hang out with my gay friends, every now and then I'm a little jealous. It's not that I'm especially interested in being intimate with a man, but there is a certain whiff of rebellion and mystery that seems to come with being gay.

Not to mention the fact that you instantly become a member of an exciting larger friend-group: the gay community.

Sometimes I can't help but wish there was something more interesting about me and my sexuality.

A couple years ago, I went to a meeting for the gay club on campus. The poster said that if you were gay, bi, curious, trans or an ally, then you were free to come. I saw the poster

“It's not that I'm especially interested in being intimate with a man, but there is a certain whiff of rebellion and mystery that seems to come with being gay.”



MARC JUNKER GRAPHIC

and said "sure, I'm an ally," and decided to go check it out. Maybe there would be free food.

When I walked in the room, I swear all conversation stopped. *What is he doing here? He doesn't belong here.* I wandered around the room, casually glancing at the books on the bookshelf and trying to be as friendly as possible. But eventually, tired at being glared at, I retreated.

The experience left me kind of torn. How can you assume anything just by looking at a person? What could anyone possibly know about my sex life — and what does it have to do with my appearance? I mean, I could be gay, right?

Whether people instantly assume I'm gay or others write me off as hopelessly straight, it's annoying to see people jump to conclusions.

No matter how accurate you think your gaydar is, chances are you can be wrong every now and then.

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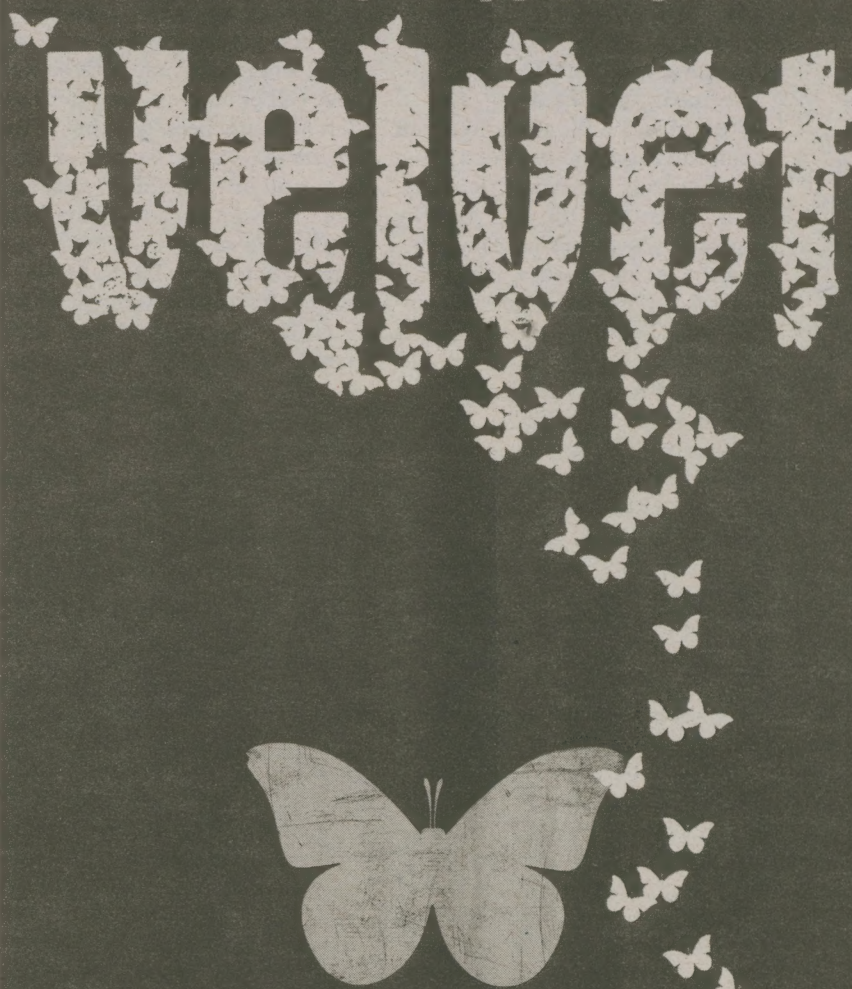
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REQUIRED READING

Lost notebook, lost soul

Tanysia Komers

A couple of weeks ago, I managed to lose my notebook on the ferry.

This was not an everyday notebook full of class notes or phone numbers, but my own personal notebook — the one with all of my essential memos, the daily “To Do” lists that never get done and the scribbles of erratic ideas that strike me throughout the day. In essence: my soul.

The odd thing about losing my soul, though, was that I didn’t even notice for the first couple of hours. There was no spontaneous combustion, bleeding from the ears, or even loss of consciousness — all of which would have made for a much better story.

Instead, I simply went on with my trip, passing by entertaining advertisements with slogans that escape me now and giggling at old ladies whose mannerisms I can no longer recall.

I started to get worried. What if the one story that would have rocketed me to fame and changed the face of humanity as we know it was just beginning to bud in a notebook that I will never see again?

There, on the ferry, I had simply abandoned my hopes at renown.

It wasn’t until after I had left the ship and had begun to actively eavesdrop on a couple of entertainingly drunk men riding the bus that it hit me: I had nowhere to scrawl ideas and idiotic quotations.

That’s right. I had nowhere to jot down the exact words of their dis-

cussion about whether they were drawn best in pencil or pen. Nowhere to make note of a friend’s proclamation that she had put her cat on anti-depressants. Nowhere to preserve this treasured observations for posterity.

Where was I supposed to get my inspiration now?

After all, a childhood of television had long since hobbled my imagination, so coming up with my own ideas was out of the question. What would I do? How would I cope?

In desperation, I called BC ferry’s Lost and Found to beg the lady on the other end to look for a small, ragged journal that contained my life.

From the way she said “Your life then, eh?” I could tell she had lost her eyebrows in her hairline and was wondering how two-dimensional my existence was that it could be restricted to a notebook.

How on earth was I supposed to describe the sort of chicken scratch that was so vital to my survival?

I almost pity the person that must have found my notebook full of scribbles, in which the only comprehensible statements were those about “reproductive abilities” or my developed dislike of dry humping in between mangled Spanish notes about calling my Mom. Or that I’m in need of alfalfa.

Who the fuck needs alfalfa and what does that even say about me?

Needless to say, it was left to the operator to tell me that no, my

soul had not been recovered and, despite her kind words about a call back, the implication that I must be a pathetic, lonely being to put that much of myself into bound scraps of paper still stung.

There I was, left with a ten-by-twelve void in my heart, and I would have to get over it.

“The odd thing about losing my soul was that I didn’t even notice for the first couple hours.”

I would need to abandon my hopes of ever remembering the kooky words of the bus passenger on acid that evening, or the observations I would make the next day on accents and the scent of piss around East Hastings.

A shell of my former self, I picked up a little green book I had lying around and began to write about the commencement of a life without the memories of old ideas.

I tried to ignore the butch chick reading over my shoulder, leaving her to make sense of my scribbles about “never again seen souls” and “piss perfumed breezes.”

The art of the fake date

Genevieve Dale

UVic’s unfortunate male-female ratio means the dating pickings for a straight girl are awful slim. So, some of us have learned to be creative.

I’ve seen some girls who reel ‘em in and hang on for dear life. Others who prefer the catch and release method: grab, go, repeat.

After ending my first serious relationship in the first semester of last year, I was in desperate need of some distraction.

The first weeks of January were madness. Deadlines, term papers, lab hours and term summaries all vied for first priority in my mind. I was getting overwhelmed.

Then along came Ben.

He was an older guy in my year who happened to be pants-meltingly attractive. We had seen each other outside of class but we’d never really been alone.

“So, would you like to go for coffee sometime?” he asked.

Ah, the world’s greatest non-committal date line! If you don’t hit it off, it was just coffee. No big deal. But if it does...

“Sure. Yeah, I’d like that.”

It went okay. He even picked me up and walked me home afterward. And he paid for both of us! The conversation was casual, relaxed, and flirty. Sparks were starting to fly.

And then, “Do you mind if I check my phone? My girlfriend was supposed to text me.”

Oh, yes. Of course.

Any chemistry we had evaporated instantly in that moment.

I went home, finished some schoolwork, and went to sleep. I

never brought it up with him again, but I thought about it constantly.

If he was involved with someone, why did he ask me out? And why did he pay for everything, open all the doors, if it wasn’t a date? What the hell was going on?

I had been snagged by the Fake Date, the best way to test the unsuspecting party for compatibility without actually risking the humiliation of a bad date. No risks, no problem.

Two months later, Ben struck again. Commitment-free caffeineation. But this new place was nicer, and actual food was ordered. A good sign. We finished, he paid. We were about to say goodbye when I decided I wanted a little more.

“What next?”

“I hoped you’d say that.”

We went to Willows Beach, walked on the sand for about an hour. I found out about his future plans, his sisters’ names, and the text girl who didn’t work out as well as he’d wanted.

He dropped me back at home, and we had a lovely parting moment. I walked away knowing I had once again Fake Dated, but it was different. I think we both sensed there was a connection, even if it wasn’t fiery and super-romantic.

Nothing ever came of it, and part of me never wanted it to be more. Ben doesn’t go to UVic anymore. He promised to come visit his friends here throughout the year. Will he? Maybe. If he doesn’t, I won’t be heartbroken.

In the meantime, I’d like to enjoy more Fake Dates.



THE MARTLET Seminar Series

Got a passion for questions? Whether you’re ready to get involved with UVic’s student newspaper, or just interested in learning more about journalism, now’s your chance.

The Martlet will be hosting free workshops during the month of January for volunteers interested in getting involved, for those already involved and for people just curious about topics in journalism. Come on out, pick up some tips from those handy Martlet staff, and get ready to ask your questions.

All workshops are held in the Martlet office (SUB B011)

Seminar Schedule

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 10:00 a.m.

Learning about Radio Journalism
Radio Producers Sarah Towle and Samantha Magnus

Did you know the Martlet has a radio show? Interested in getting involved, or just in finding out how to turn your inquisitive know-how into a radio broadcast? Come and chat with the Martlet’s radio producers for some tips and training on how you can expand your journalistic options.

Thursday, Jan. 22, 4:30 p.m.

The Art of Ledes and Conclusions
Editor-in-Chief Danielle Pope

Think intros are tough? You’re not alone. Learn the art of crafting the phrases which become the first and second most important part of any journalistic piece: what draws readers in, and what readers are left with. It just might change your style.

Thursday, Jan. 22, 6:30 p.m.

Writing to Promote Awareness
Civics Editors Kim Magi and Cody Willett

Interested in social issues, in promoting change, in local and national politics? Talk to Kim and Cody to find out how to sniff out political stories, enhance your understanding of local issues and generate clippings in one of the most valuable beats for your journalistic portfolio.

Friday, Jan. 23, 11:00 a.m.

Media Law
Managing Editor Tim Lindsay

Think you know enough when it comes

to publishing your pieces? How about what counts as libel, and what counts as a defense? Let Tim show you the ins and outs of media law, its importance in the journalistic workplace, and tactics around knowing your rights.

Wednesday, Jan. 28, 3:00 p.m.

Ethics in Journalism
Managing Editor Tim Lindsay

Journalists ask tough questions everyday, but what about when the tough question falls on the journalist? How do you know when something is really “off the record,” or if it’s appropriate to report on a story that’s only rumoured to be true? Let Tim answer your tough questions about getting through one of the trickiest parts of journalism: ethics.

Thursday, Jan. 29, 4:30 p.m.

Finding an Alternative Voice
Editor-in-Chief Danielle Pope

What makes the voice of alternative media special? How can it work to promote social change and become a more creative outlet all at once? Talk with Danielle about issues surrounding alt-media, like learning how to spin alternative story ideas out of mainstream sources and adapting for alternative audiences.

Thursday, Jan. 29, 6:30 p.m.

Sports Reporting
Sports Editor Andrew Smith

Got a passion for sports but not sure you know the lingo? Let Andrew show you just how easy it is to get into this fun and challenging newspaper beat. Learn how

to generate unique questions for avoiding those coach-stock answers, and pick up some tips on writing sports reviews that grab readers’ attention.

Friday, Jan. 30, 10:30 a.m.

Writing the News Beat
News Editors Sam Vanschie and Kailey Willetts

Hard news, soft news, investigative and service journalism. Learn how to do it all. Talk with the Martlet News Editors to examine one of the toughest and most rewarding beats of a newspaper, and find out what story ideas make the pitch to build an impressive portfolio.

Friday, Jan. 30, 2:00 p.m.

Making Arts Relevant
Living Editor Gemma Karstens-Smith

Want to learn how to write interesting show reviews, create dynamic profiles and craft previews that leap off the page? Let Gemma show you how to avoid arts writing clichés, and create pieces that relate to readers.

Friday, Jan. 30, 4:00 p.m.

Publishing Your Graphics
Graphics Editor Jennifer Zhou and Production Assistant Marc Junker

Into art? Newspapers need you! Let Jennifer and Marc teach you the steps on how to prepare your graphics and cartoons for print and digital media, as well as some tips and training on how to learn about conceptualizing graphics from stories, and how you can get involved in an integral part of any newspaper: the art.

Saturday, Jan. 31, 3:00 p.m.

Opinions Make the World Go ‘Round
Opinions Editor Will Johnson

Got something to say? Put your pen to paper for the opinions section. Talk to Will about crafting informed op-eds which educate while telling a story and can leave readers fired up.

Coming up

A Photo’s Worth a Thousand
Photo Editor Josh Thompson

Like taking photos? Why not get them published? Let Josh show you how you can turn your creative edge into the captured moments of a newspaper. From sports photography to profile shots, images can make or break those headlines — learn how.

Paper Perfection

Copy Editor Courtney Smith

Learn tips and tricks on how to perfect your copy-editing skills for every section of the newspaper. Let Courtney answer your questions on subjects ranging from Canadian Press style, to the critical role copy-editing plays in the paper, to just getting started.

Layout Dynamics

Production Co-ordinator Jodie Thomson

Layout may be one of the last steps to getting a paper to print, but it’s also one of the most important. Let Jodie enlighten you on what makes a technically-sound paper, how to perfect your headline structure and how to create visually-dynamic pages.

Beating the homesickness bug

Story by Natalia Heilke

Illustrations by Jennifer Zhou



How to Combat Homesickness

TALK TO PEOPLE Make friends, find people to talk to, build yourself a community. This will give you a way to discuss how you're feeling, and being part of a community is a huge step on the road to feeling at home in a new place.

STAY BUSY It's harder to feel homesick when you're busy doing things. It's also a great way to meet people and make friends.

PURSUE OLD HOBBIES What did you enjoy doing at home? Sports, arts, reading? Try incorporating these activities in your new life.

STAY HEALTHY Maintain a balanced diet, exercise and get enough sleep. Keeping yourself in good physical health provides a strong foundation to cope with all new stresses and anxiety.

BE PREPARED If you're moving away from home for the first time, don't be surprised or embarrassed when homesickness strikes. This is normal. Eventually, it will pass.

In l'Etang la Ville, a quiet residential suburb of Paris, France, the sky glowed in shades of blue. Birds twittered in nearby trees and late summer flowers peppered the grass. I sat around a patio table with the family I'd agreed to nanny for the next 11 months.

I'd ached to be in France again since my first trip four years prior, at the age of 15. I'd dreamed of this. So I was just as surprised as anyone else when Mr. Schmitt asked me to pass the dressing and I burst into tears, sobbing over my tossed salad.

I was homesick. I shouldn't have been so shocked, though. Whether travelling across an ocean or just a few hours down the road, anyone can come down with the homesickness bug. It's a common response to leaving home for the first (or second, or third) time, giving up the familiar for the unknown and parting ways with an established routine. And for students coming, or returning, to university for the first time, the feelings can be especially acute.

That first week in France, I ran through half a dozen packets of Kleenex, and a month later I wasn't feeling much better.

"I think it's like your first breakup," second-year UVic student Shandi Lindt explains. "The first time you fall in love and then break up with somebody, it's like this big, earth-shattering, life-ending thing — [just] like the first time you move away from home."

So there I was, broken up in Europe, and running out of Kleenex. What do you do with that? If home is like an ex-boyfriend, you'd better not call him. You don't want him back (really, you don't). But what do you do instead? If you're me, you start eating Nutella by the spoonful and nosing through English language bookstores for familiar titles.

It's not that I wanted to go home, exactly. I'd left for a reason; my small Midwestern town had gotten pretty boring the last couple years. But missing home can be like missing that pseudo boyfriend from high school — the kind of cute and nerdy boy who you messed around with but never really wanted to get stuck with forever. But once he's gone and you're on your own, you find yourself missing him.

Lindt, a petit, soft-spoken girl who likes colourful clothes

and always looks cheerful, had the same problem. She came to Victoria from the small river-valley community of Williams Lake in Northern B.C.

"I moved straight out of my mom's house, she drove me straight here, dropped me off, and I was on my own for the first time," Lindt recalls. "I cried when she left."

It wasn't that she wanted to stick around Williams Lake. And it wasn't like Lindt was planning then, or now, to go back.

"I have moved away. There's not a whole lot to offer in my hometown," Lindt says. "It'll always be home, but I don't think I'll want to live there again."

The trouble with homesickness is that, just like the emotions that keep you loving that guy from high school, it doesn't function logically.

Tricia Best, a counsellor at UVic, explains that it all comes down to what the brain knows, and what's familiar.

"[Students] realize, this isn't what I thought it was going to be, I am missing home — I'm missing my support system," Best says. "Homesickness [focuses] around what feels like it's missing."

So if what's missing is a place you don't want to go back to, you miss it regardless of the fact that you chose to leave in the first place. And on a day when you've received five new homework assignments, burned dinner and set off the smoke alarm, missed a call from your best friend in Ontario and spilled bleach on your best jeans, of course you'll want to run screaming out of the dorm and back to wherever you came from — the grass was always greener back in the day.

This was true for me in France, missing a hometown where one movie theatre and a bowling alley constituted the local entertainment options. Still, it was also the place where I'd left my family, my mom's cooking and my little brother's snide but affectionate remarks. Now I inhabited a place where all the cars were funny shapes and sizes, the eggs were runny and I was lucky to understand one word in five.

Living in Victoria, Lindt missed her old job at the movie theatre — the place she had worked for six years and knew absolutely everyone. She had an established routine there; she had established familiarity. Lindt wasn't interested in



chatting to strangers about her woes, so she did what she could to keep herself busy.

"I just did a lot of reading and studying and distracting myself," she says.

So where does this leave the homesick? The good news here in Victoria, and at UVic, is that there are plenty of opportunities to keep busy. As Lindt found, part of combating the affliction is to stay occupied. And one of the best remedies for homesickness is simply to do — and do just about anything. Once that new place gets more familiar, it gets more comfortable.

Consider the hobbies and interests you pursued back home, and seek out the resources that will let you recapture those in your new place.

Best reminds that it's important to meet people in order to build a community for yourself. Is there a direct correlation between knowing people and feeling at home somewhere?

"Definitely," says Lindt, "and I'm not even a very social person."

It can be difficult to meet people, even in a crowded university, even living in res, but it's worth the effort and the time it takes.

"There are lots of resources here at UVic — lots of them," says Best. "It's just a matter of asking for help and reaching out a little bit, and [also] knowing that we're here. Our whole role here in counselling is to support students."

There's plenty going on around campus, though Best even suggests one specific upcoming event for students.

"At the end of this month we're going to have a student leadership conference," Best says. "A lot of what it's about is bringing students together on campus."

The conference is open to the entire university, and will involve a network fair to learn about organizations both on and off campus, as well as a sustainability feast.

Best also notes that UVic's Peer Helping organization is an excellent resource for students who are homesick or just need to talk with someone — not to mention those who feel ready to help others.

In addition to social interaction, Best stresses the need to take care of yourself.

"Keeping healthy is an important component to dealing with homesickness," she says. That includes eating right and getting enough sleep and exercise. "[There are] healthy foundations that we need to be able to cope with any situation... if these things are in place then you can build on that."

Two months after my arrival in France, I felt reasonably stable. When pangs of homesickness returned off and on, I was better equipped to deal with them; I'd made friends, built some familiarity with the area and established a routine. Plus I'd stopped eating entire jars of Nutella and reintroduced myself to large portions of fruits and vegetables. By the time I moved to Victoria for university, still 2,000 miles from my hometown, I was fully able to deal with the occasional scraps of homesickness that poked their heads through the door.

Just like the old high school flame who gradually fades from memory (what colour were his eyes — grey-blue?) the pangs for home subside in time. As Best says, it's important to remember to give yourself enough time to get comfortable in your new place. Getting through these tough times builds that "character" stuff that parents like to talk about, which goes a long way toward making the next big change a little easier — or at least a little less agonizing.

Resources at UVic

COUNSELLING SERVICES Free of charge for all UVic students, trained professionals are ready to help you with personal or academic issues. Call 250-721-8341, or visit coun.uvic.ca.

PEER HELPING Fellow students are trained to offer counselling on a variety of issues at their drop-in centre. Peer Helping also participates in a variety of outreach programs, public awareness activities and events. Visit them in the Student Union Building, Room B005, or online: peerhelping.uvic.ca.

STUDENT TRANSITION CENTRE The Student Transition Centre holds conferences, workshops and activities for new and continuing students. They are located in the SUB, Room B010, and online uvic.ca/transition.

2009 STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE Student and Ancillary Services will be holding this conference at the end of January to discuss sustainability and leadership at home and in the community. Opportunities for mingling and meeting new people combine with a sustainable feast held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 31.

But missing home can be like missing that pseudo boyfriend from high school — the kind of cute and nerdy boy who you messed around with but never really wanted to get stuck with forever.

Energy drinks popular, but are they safe?

Briony Wright

If Crayola had a name for the liquid that comes out of some energy drink cans, it would be radioactive yellow.

They don't necessarily look (or smell) appealing, but with promises to stimulate body and mind and sexy names like Rockstar, Rush, or Beaver Buzz (a proudly Canadian concoction), who can resist? Energy drinks become the perfect solution for students with hectic schedules — but scientists are concerned that this shot of energy comes at a price.

The small print on the back of energy drinks read like a prescription: do not consume more than 500 mL per day, as needed. Do not consume if you are a child, breast feeding, pregnant, or caffeine sensitive. Do not mix with alcohol.

At parties and bars the drink is available in several alcoholic concoctions, including Jager-bombs, where a shot of Jager is dropped into a partially-filled glass of Red Bull (or another energy drink) and consumed in one fell swoop. At gyms and sporting events energy drinks are sold alongside water and Powerade.

For late-night study sessions the drinks are available at Finnerly's and other coffee shops. Yet, while the popularity of energy drinks continues to grow, so does the concern.

"One of the biggest concerns is that we just don't know enough about the effect of the combination of ingredients in energy drinks," explained naturopathic doctor Cathy Wong on About.com.

A 355 mL can of Red Bull, for example, contains 113.6 mg of caffeine, 1,420 mg of taurine and 852

mg of glucuronolactone.

Several countries have opted to ban the sale of various energy drinks. But since Red Bull was introduced in the U.S. in 1997, energy drink consumption has been on the rise. The drinks are predominantly aimed at 18 to 30-year-olds, and have infiltrated all styles of life. Only in 2008 did France end its 12-year ban of Red Bull. Until then, France had only permitted the sale of a taurine-free version of the product.

Though rumors circulated that taurine was derived from bull testicles, it was actually found in the bile of ox. The taurine used in energy drinks today, however, is synthetically made.

Health Canada warns that energy drinks should never be mixed with alcohol or consumed while exercising.

"People drink them to keep up their energy during periods of intense physical activity or drink them after exercise to quench their thirst," reads the Health Canada website. "But rather than re-hydrating their bodies, these drinks may actually lead to dehydration."

Dehydration puts stress on the heart. There have been several reports of individuals in Canada who have suffered from electrolyte disturbances, nausea, vomiting and heart irregularities after mixing energy drinks with alcohol or drinking more than the recommended amount.

Ross Cooney of Ireland died during a basketball game in 2001 after consuming four cans of Red Bull. It was later ruled that he died from Sudden Adult Death Syndrome. While several deaths, such as Cooney's, have left the public questioning the safety of energy



JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Many students use energy drinks to help with late nights, but the beverages can have negative effects.

drinks, a concrete link has yet to be made.

For those who are curious about how those bottled energy-boosting buddies affect a body, energyfiend.com provides a quick quiz

to find out just how many energy drinks you need to guzzle before they kill you (apparently 61.85 back-to-back cans of Rockstar would leave me six feet under).

The website disclaimer is quick

to point out that the quiz is to be used "for entertainment purposes only," and goes on to say: "If you actually try this and end up dying after only 140 energy drinks instead of 143, it's not our fault."

> first prize...
 \$100 gift card

Want to be a fashion designer?
 We want you to create our next t-shirt. Go goth, urban, chic, hippie – whatever suits your style. The chosen design will be screened on men's and women's organic cotton tees this spring.

Entry deadline is Feb 5, 2009
 For contest specs, ask in-store or go to www.uvicbookstore.ca

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Hear the weekly top ten on Charts and Graphs every Tuesday at 3:00PM on CFUV 101.9FM.

TOP TEN

FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 13, 2009

1. DD/MM/YYYY *
777 (Self-Released)
2. Q-TIP
The Renaissance (Universal Motown)
3. PARTS & LABOR
Receivers (Jagjaguwar)
4. MEATDRAW †
Fin Du Monophone (Self-Released)
5. AMADOU & MARIAM
Welcome To Mali (Because/Warner)
6. MT. EERIE
Lost Wisdom (PW Elverum & Sun)
7. OF MONTREAL
Skeletal Lamping (Polyvinyl)
8. THE BICYCLES *
Oh No, It's Love (Fuzzy Logic)
9. HER SPACE HOLIDAY
XOXO Panda and The New Kid Revival (Mush)
10. NEIL YOUNG *
Sugar Mountain: Live From Canterbury House, 1968 (Reprise)

* Canadian artist † local artist

Nine Inch Nails proves you don't need a label to rock

Josh Thompson

Music as we know it is changing. The days when the record company was the be-all and end-all are fading. With the proliferation of both legal and illegal downloading, the music industry as a whole is fighting to retain control — and looking for new ways to rake in the big bucks.

An increasing number of artists are ditching their labels completely as a response to the changing landscape. Nine Inch Nails (NIN) has been one of the highest-profile acts to release music sans-label.

Founded in 1988, NIN never fit a specific genre of music, instead they were loosely categorized by some as alternative, industrial or experimental rock. Since 1988, Trent Reznor, who remains the only official member of NIN, has pushed the boundaries of conventional music. Yet NIN has remained at the top of the alternative music charts, enjoying ubiquitous play on Victoria's modern rock station The Zone, as well as near-permanent locations on the mainstream charts including the Billboard 200 and MTV's video rotations.

NIN released several albums under labels (most recently, Interscope) between 1989 and 2007. But when NIN's contract with Interscope expired, Reznor decided to remain unsigned. He's since released two studio albums, *Ghosts I-IV*, and *The Slip* independently through nin.com. When *Ghosts* was silently released on March 2, 2008, word spread fast.

Not long after the release, the website stated: "To our surprise, the traffic was more than three times what we anticipated, and has only been getting heavier throughout the day." It caused servers to crash and the website to go offline. *Ghosts* was also officially released on bittorrent site thepiratebay.com, and on amazon.com. It grossed \$1,619,420 USD in online sales in the first week.

On May 5, 2008 Reznor posted on nin.com: "Thank you for your continued and loyal support over the years — this one's on me." With that, he released *The Slip*, NIN's latest studio album, com-



JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails released his last two albums online without a record label.

pletely free in a variety of formats for download. As of June 26, over 1,400,000 individual people had downloaded *The Slip*.

NIN isn't the first mainstream band to challenge conventional album releases. In 2007, Radiohead released *In Rainbows*, their seventh full-studio album for download at whatever price fans saw fit. Much like *The Slip*, the album received critical acclaim and sold over three million copies.

Do these unorthodox releases actually make money? According to a report by Radiohead's publisher Warner Chappell, most people paid nothing for the down-

load, however pre-release sales were more profitable than the total sales of their 2003 album, *Hail To The Thief*.

Without the hefty fees imposed by record labels, artists are offered a substantially larger profit margin, not to mention a large savings in distribution and manufacturing costs. Although *The Slip* was offered completely free of charge, 250,000 limited-editions discs were made for distribution in stores. And while the album profits are not available, given NIN's extensive fan base it would not be surprising to see it generate a hefty sum.

Even if free digital downloads don't serve to generate much money, they certainly drum up interest in concerts. Heralded for the complex sets and light shows, NIN's "Lights in the sky over North America tour" (produced by Live Nation) sold out across 35 venues in North America, with the Dec. 8 show in Victoria selling out in under four minutes.

And Victoria fans weren't disappointed. With NIN's most star-studded line up yet (guitarist Robin Finck, keyboardist Alessandro Cortini, drummer Josh Freese and bassist Justin Meldal-Johnsen) the amazing landscape of light was

superseded only by the soundscape of an artist in his prime. At 43, Reznor is getting on in years for a rocker, but he still tears up the stage like an un-caged beast, sending mic stands into the air and spraying sweat onto the fans in the pit below.

The Victoria show started with the ethereal "999,999" seeing band members emerge slowly and unexpectedly from a strobe drenched wall of fog, only to jump into the driving "1,000,000" to get the crowd jumping.

"March of the Pigs" brought the crowd to critical mass, with the floor swelling and ebbing in a torrent of tightly-packed bodies eager to get closer to the source of their energy. Not bad for only being 15 minutes in. The mood soon changed to the rhythmic, sometimes abrasive, often groovy instrumentals from the *Ghosts I-IV* albums, accompanied by visuals that even Pink Floyd would be impressed by.

NIN would be playing on a stage resembling a shimmering oasis using only light, then just as instantly, hidden from view in a giant wash of black and white cable vision noise, peeking in and out of view. For "Echoplex," Reznor walked out to a wall full of squares arranged in a grid. In Vana White fashion, he began to touch the squares, illuminating them, and in the process started the drum sample for the song, a marvellous combination of ear and eye candy.

The concert could be recounted in minute detail, without giving any real meaning to the experience — the magic of NIN can only be experienced in pounding chests, watering eyes and burning ears.

As the landscape of music changes around him, Reznor continues to blaze trails, not only in his music, but in the industry itself.

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One person's trash is another person's meal

Meaghan Kerr

I get my food out of garbage cans.

It can be a necessity, a social activity or a way of life. It draws a cult-like following from all backgrounds. And in Victoria, where laissez faire attitudes and consumer-environmental concerns mix with balmy weather and bike lanes, you've got the perfect conditions for an underground culture: dumpster diving.

Its attraction is as varied as the individual divers are. There those who can't afford food, period. There are "freegans" who choose to eat only free food. Then there are university students subsidizing their studies with a little dumpstering on the side. Most agree on one stance, though: it circumvents the commoditized assembly-line of store shelves that have become our society's food source.

"There's a surplus of food available in the world, and the production of more food is completely unnecessary when so much is thrown away," said Barry McEwan, dumpster diver.

His roommate, Nate Carrick, agrees.

"Throwing away food is basically wrong," Carrick said. "There's so much energy that goes into [producing] it. I don't want to support a system like that — one that's so wasteful and harmful to the environment."

The members of McEwan and Carrick's household are not only seasoned divers, but also boast a chicken coop in their backyard, constructed from foraged wood. They estimate that 95 per cent of their food is free and self-sought.

These days, Carrick only goes into grocery stores to buy ice cream.

"I don't feel tempted to buy food at all anymore," he said. "When I do, it's special."

My own freezer is stocked with bread loaves and cases of identical teriyaki sauces, while the fridge houses baffling varieties of humus — all loot from various dumpster scores over the past semester. Still, after two weeks of winter vacation, my kitchen feels a little sparse. It's time for another dumpster run.

We pile into a friend's car, a sure

sign this will be a big night. Driving seems counter-intuitive to dumpstering environmental ethics, but a milk crate bike basket only holds so much.

Our first stop is a bakery, where we score the morning's leftover loaves.

Six months ago, I would have dived right in, ready to chow down on whatever score I'd find inside. Now, my experience has given me a discriminating palate, demanding nothing less than whole wheat. The less desirable items we leave behind. Undoubtedly, they'll be picked up by someone else.

We scope out the neighbourhood with measured success: a box of oranges here, a bag of apples there. The rain is flooding some of the hunting grounds. Produce bobbles up and down in puddles, ruined. It's not the best night, but we have one more stop.

“

"The production of more food is completely unnecessary when so much is thrown away."

— Barry McEwan

”

We head to a favourite place, where there's always a friendly backroom clerk who couldn't care less what we're up to. It's also enclosed by a six-foot-high fence, perfect for eluding disdainful store customers.

"Four of you, eh?" says a teenage boy hauling milk crates. We greet him and continue our work. Mostly avocados and peppers. He comes back with a loaded box of fruit and a medley of bakery goods.

Paralysed by surprise, no one moves to take the box.

"Here, I've got one more coming," he tells us.

A girl appears with an equally



JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Dumpster divers rescue the majority of their food from what others have discarded as trash.

weighed down box of produce. The group is ecstatic, and we dance our way to the car and head for a pub. With weeks of grocery shopping — and grocery bills — taken care of, it's time for a few pitchers.

Grocery store managers are reluctant to comment on the amount of food discarded each day, but all it takes is a look in the dumpster to see what sort of swag is available.

Milk and tofu days before due, canned chickpeas with torn labels, bananas ripened to a golden hue. Of course, there's also the rotted tomatoes, meat rinds, bathroom garbage bags and more.

"The thing that gets to me is dumpster juice," said Suzie Casteneda, another diver. "There's this smell that pervades your clothes and follows you back home."

Walking into Casteneda's house, I catch a whiff of the familiar fragrance. Here, boxes of dumpster scores line the kitchen wall. Despite meticulous washing, opening the fridge in my own home is

always dicey. My roommate has taken to setting aside a specific dumpstering outfit, complete with headlamp and gloves, to keep her clothes juice-free.

For us (dumpster divers motivated more by conscience than need) the satisfaction of maintaining uncompromised ethics while getting free food overpowers all the messiness.

There are perks to the dumpster life as well. A dumpster diet doesn't equal a sacrifice in food quality. In fact, it enhances it, incorporating high-quality cheeses, organic produce and fine deli selections. Divers who garden also have a plethora of ready compost at their — ahem — disposal. The back-alley biking is fun and initiates a back-of-the-hand knowledge of city streets. Then there's the meals.

"Dumpstering leads to more interesting culinary creations, [and] forces you to work with what you've got," said Casteneda.

McEwan reminisced about his own concoctions.

"I'd normally never make a lobster tail sandwich," he said. "I mean, lobster tail is 20 bucks! Who's going to waste it on a sandwich?"

Casteneda recently started work at a market that allows employees to take home end-of-the-day food.

With less time devoted to garnering food, the housemates have plans for more enterprising dumpster dives.

"Construction sites have a huge waste bin that they don't remove until the site's complete," she said. "So you can go through it anytime."

McEwan is already amassing a collection of bike parts and furniture. The ideas they have marinating range from practical to pure pleasure.

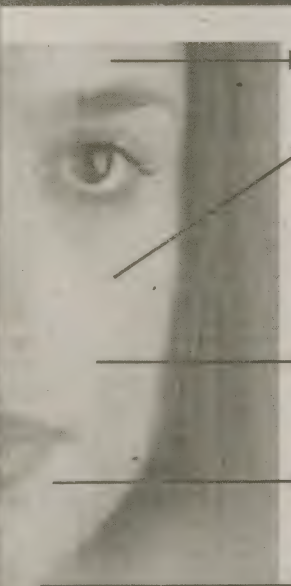
"Drum shack!"

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"Compost toilet!"

Looking out the window at the hens nestled inside their coop, I think they just might be onto something.

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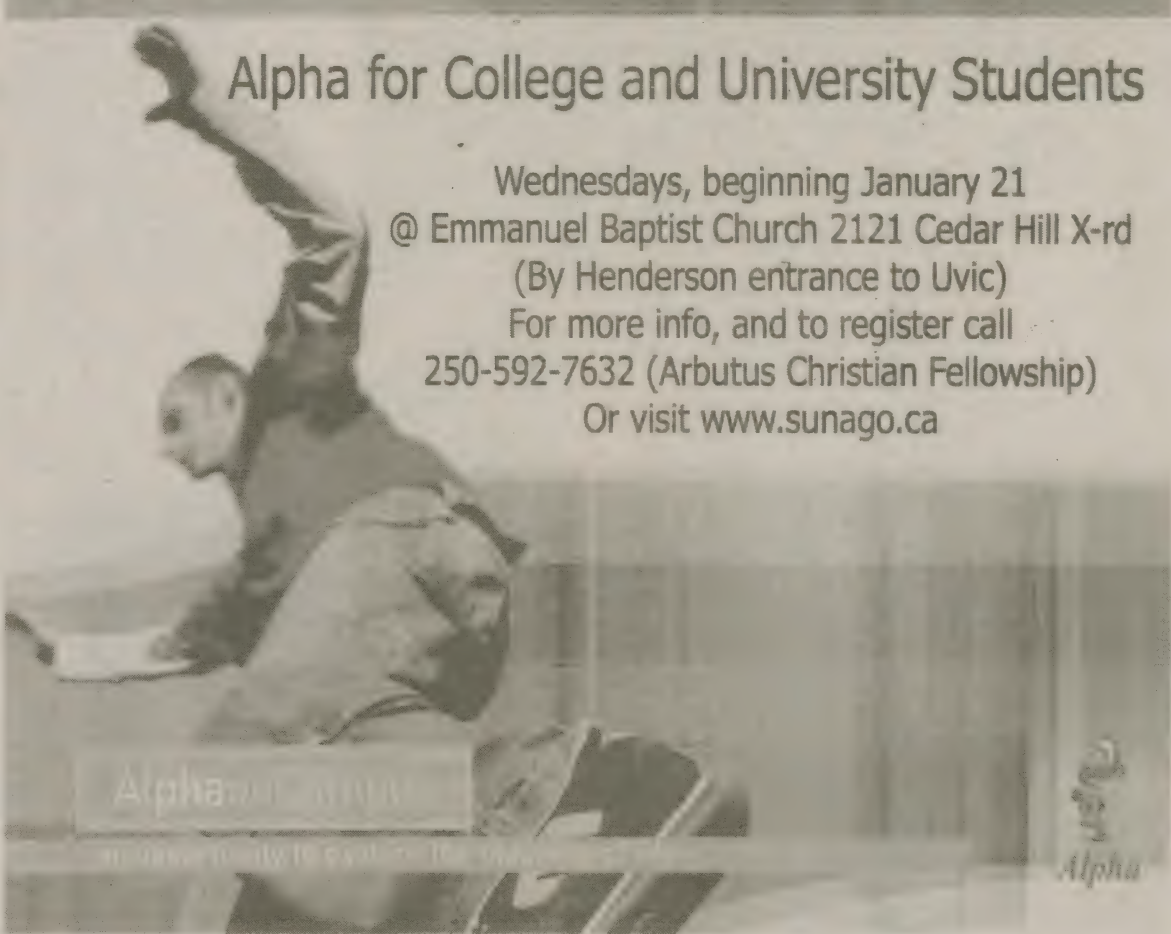
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Five spring fashion trends to ring in the new year

Trisha Gieni

As 2009 sets in and we stop accidentally writing 2008 on everything, we are left to wonder what to expect from the upcoming months.

Fashion-wise, will trucker hats come back to re-haunt us? Will our hangers struggle to hold on to off-the-shoulder sweaters? Unlike those trends that follow us like a piece of toilet paper stuck to the bottom of our shoe, some 2008 items are welcome friends in the new year. Of course, there are also some new finds that give us all hope that 2009 will be a great year in fashion. Here are five trends to already love this year, whether they're new, returning, or still going strong.

Dyed leather gloves

Not only are they practical as our winters get colder and longer, but they are a great splash of colour to any outfit. These gloves work best as the center of attention, so pairing them with black or grey is ideal. Half-gloves are also fun, with full fingers, but stopping halfway into the palms. Some stores even market vegan-friendly versions.

The large geek-chic glasses

These bold pairs of eyewear make

short-sightedness more fun. If you have to wear glasses, you may as well make a statement with them. They were around last year, but now they're becoming an accessory of high fashion.

Ankle boots

While campus was invaded last year by the high boot, this spring you can look forward to shorter tops, with taller heels. Beautifully detailed, these boots look great with cable knit tights and skirts, or skinny jeans. Beware however — they can make your legs look shorter, so choose your outfit wisely.

Monochromatic outfits

It is almost like wearing a uniform or dressing up as a colour for Halloween. Surprisingly, it looks amazing (most of the time), and is popping up all over the place right now. Be careful though — even the most optimistic person would have trouble pulling off an all-yellow ensemble.

Pleats, pleats, pleats

They are not only flattering, but they give movement to your outfit and add a look of effort to whatever you're wearing. But if you don't know the difference between pleats and wrinkle creases, avoid this

look — and maybe buy an iron.

This year seems to be about variety and softness. While pat-

terns are still present, intricate design in simpler fabrics seem to dominate the look. That said,

there is still plenty of room for individuality and a unique spin on the season.



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Thriller novel provides an exciting escape from reality

Extreme Measures

Vince Flynn

ATRIA BOOKS

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October 2008

Mark Seneviratne

Extreme Measures is thriller author Vince Flynn's newest novel about the travails of operative Mitch Rapp, who faces as many political threats as security ones.

On the political side, Rapp has to testify before a Senate intelligence committee over his suspected abuse of prisoners at a foreign military base. On the home front, Rapp has to deal with a suspected cell that aims to wreck carnage against the National Counter-ter-

rorism Center in DC, and blow up some famous, heavily patronized DC restaurants.

Hamstrung by the political investigation, Rapp spends the duration of the novel responding to Senatorial critics who say his methods cross the line from interrogation into torture. One Senator in particular, Barbara Lonsdale, wants Rapp prosecuted and arrested to enhance her status within her own party and Washington's elite, more so than upholding human rights.

Flynn's book continues his tradition of being well-edited and fast-paced. Although the antagonists in his novel have logical motivations and intelligence, they have doubts about their mission.

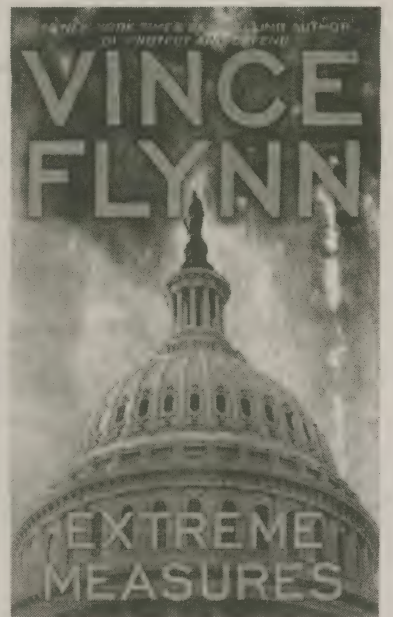
Interestingly enough, the crew undergoes military style training to emulate the Navy Seals and Marine Force Recon, planning more of a precision attack than a suicide bombing. Flynn does not break new ground, however, in either the spy genre or the military genre. His book's subject matter is compelling because it underscores the phrase Nietzsche once wrote that, "Those who fight monsters must be careful not to become a monster."

Rapp must fight men who have no limits or qualms, have not signed the Geneva Convention, wear no uniform and who wage asymmetrical warfare. Rapp however, has no need for self-reflection and doubt — his first priority is to get to the heart of the issue, cut through all

the bureaucratic red tape and find the truth.

A major criticism with the novel comes from one of the sub-characters, Rick Nash — a thoroughly boring addition to the series. He is unduly elevated into a position where a significant portion of the book is devoted to his melodramatic suburban problems, which come off like filler and padding. These chapters bring the furious pace of the book to a screeching halt. Any future books should have Nash relegated back to a minor role.

Ultimately, Flynn's *Extreme Measures* is a quick and readable injection of adrenaline to pass gloomy days. It may not stir intellect, but it will provide the necessary dose of escapism to look forward to.



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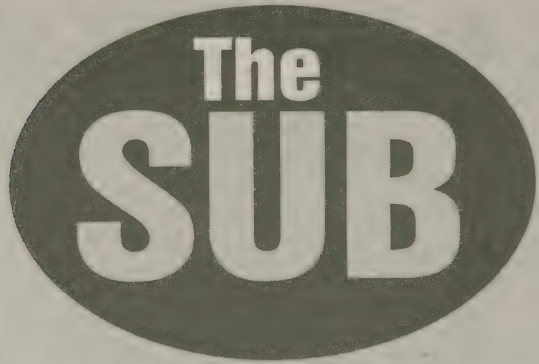
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PROVIDED PHOTO

Lacey Crawley of UVic's Varsity Eight and Danielle Olmstead of the Novice Eight use ergometers to simulate a rowing experience during a training session.

Try an ergometer for a change

Jonathon Wolsey

January tends to be the worst time of year for an athlete. Whether it's the snow, rain, wind, ice or a combination of all in the same day, an outdoor workout can truly test amateur and professional athletes.

For an athlete who prefers to focus on the workout rather than the weather conditions, however, the indoor rowing club offers a dry alternative.

Indoor rowing classes are now being offered at two different locations. While Saanich Commonwealth Place may be a journey for the typical UVic student, the Ian Stewart complex is just a five-minute walk from campus.

The Sannich location offers classes on Thursday, while the Ian Stewart location turns exercising into an intramural sport by forming co-ed teams and singles every Tuesday and Wednesday.

The rowing experience is simulated through an ergometer — a piece of machinery used for testing and fitness training. The device demands the use of the cardiovascular systems (heart, blood vessels, or vasculature, and

the cells and plasma that make up the blood) through interval training.

Depending on the number of participants the club has each day, participants have the choice of working alone or as a team by hooking up their two ergometers to row at the same time. Linking the ergometers simulates two people in one boat, giving the feel of a relay or a four-oar boat.

The ergometers are often misused, according to Lisa Lynam, who runs the club and teaches at both gyms.

"You lose the misconception of upper body workout on the ergometer," she said before adding that participants tend to have the wrong form when learning to row on the machines.

According to Lynam, the workout is meant to target your quads and core muscles, leaving the arms as a secondary workout.

"The way I teach allows you to time your rhythm so if you were to hop into a boat, you would not have any difficulty," Lynam said.

Unlike running on the treadmill, rowing allows a different approach to working out your legs, back and anaerobic system,

and also allows less stress on the knees and joints, which tend to take a beating on the hard surface of a treadmill.

Working out in a club also allows participants to meet people outside of classes and stay motivated. In the Ian Stewart class, there are opportunities to form competitive co-ed teams against one another. Just as in a regular practice for team sports, participants have the opportunity to compete against each other at the end of classes.

The weekly training nights will culminate with the Monster Erg Intramural tournament on Feb. 1, at McKinnon Gym, where other athletes will take part in time trials in either singles or teams.

This type of indoor fitness offers a fun, unthreatening work environment aimed toward any age group and fitness ability. Space is open and a push for more female and male rowers are needed to make up more co-ed teams.

As Olympic gold-medallist Adam Kreek says, "indoor rowing is an efficient way to burn off those extra holiday calories, and stay fit while staying warm and dry."

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PROVIDED PHOTO

Manhunt has taken off in Victoria, and now boasts over 350 members.

Sound the alarm, it's a manhunt

Andrew Smith

Unknown to the local authorities last Sunday, Jan. 10, there was a full-fledged manhunt involving over 35 participants in Victoria's downtown sector.

In a blocked off area near the B.C. Museum Clock tower, several people could be seen chasing one another through the streets taking refuge by whatever means at their disposal. The hunt was roughly the 23rd of its kind to take place in Victoria just this past year. But these all-out chases are not your average manhunts.

With over 350 members in its chapter, Victoria Manhunt — better known as "A Game O' Manhunt" — has become one the fastest-growing local recreation groups.

With the entire game evolving around an elaborate hide-and-seek concept, the rules are simple for newcomers to learn. Through flyers, facebook, newspaper ads and word of mouth, this group has had 50 new members join since Christmas.

Manhunt's Victoria chapter, organized by second-year UVic History in Art grad student Eric Anderson, is the first on Vancouver Island.

It's not the first in Canada however, as Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, London and Edmonton each boast their own rapidly growing chapters.

According to Anderson, there are several reasons the group has taken off in Victoria.

"It's something that's free," Anderson said. "It's something based outdoors, and I think it really speaks to people's ideas about community and co-operation."

The game begins after a "Manhunter" has been designated "it." After waiting 120 seconds for the "fugitives" to hide, the Manhunter will stalk his or her prey within a predetermined boundary. If the fugitives exit the boundaries at any point during the game, they will join forces with their hunter and become yet another Manhunter.

If a Manhunter manages to arrest a fugitive during the game, the fugitive will become "brainwashed" and be forced to join forces with the Manhunters.

If a fugitive manages to elude the hunters by the end of the game, he or she is declared the winner.

The concept is simple enough, and participants need not bring anything more than a pair of durable shoes and clothing that blends in with their surroundings.

Most games take place near downtown Victoria to encourage a maximum number of players. Games have occurred as far away as Sir James Douglas School in Fairfield, while others have been played in the busiest streets of Victoria. The only thing that sets the players apart from civilians is a highly-visible yellow arm band.

The weather may be dreary, but Anderson says people are more than willing to come and play. Each hunt brings out an average of 20 to 30 people.

"It's absolutely open to everyone," Anderson said. "There can be a lot of running involved, but it's a game that you can also be sneaky in and really avoid running — it caters to a lot of different athletic levels. We've never turned anybody away."

LUNDY'S RUNDOWN



MARC JUNKER GRAPHIC

Five careers on the verge of collapse

Matt Lundy

Fame is fleeting — just ask Ja Rule, any member of Celebrity Rehab and whoever sung the Macarena. The same holds true for NBA players. Without a mask to hide their emotions, players' every reaction gets held up to the scrutiny of millions, whether it's an aggravated pinkie sprain or a Lakers cheerleader who's piqued someone's interest.

If you own a jersey from one of the following players, you might want to sell it on Craigslist. Here's a list of the five biggest collapses in NBA popularity among active players.

5. Ben Gordon

Popularity can sink for an NBA player, even at the tender age of 25. Nearly four years ago in the playoffs, fans cheered "Air Gordon" while the diminutive combo guard torched the Washington Wizards with an array of three-pointers. Yet after the Gordon hangover wore off, Bulls fans realised that the DUI-prone commentator Charles Barkley was right when he called Gordon a "black hole" — once the ball gets to him, it never comes out. The shot-happy guard has continued to rack up the points, but his role in Chicago's future has been supplanted by rookie darling Derrick Rose.

4. Vince Carter

You could easily make a case for Carter coming in at the number-one spot. The veteran shooting guard, currently playing with the New Jersey Nets, quickly became the league's hottest commodity in the post-Michael Jordan era with the Toronto Raptors. For the better part of seven seasons, Carter led the Raptors behind a deadly mix of outside shooting and vicious dunks. A perennial vote-in all-star, Carter became the whipping boy in Toronto when he quit on his team, whined after every nick and sprain and proved that behind the flash was little winning pedi-

gree. The only insane thing about the man known as Vinsanity is the ridiculously close relationship he has with his mother.

3. Shawn Marion

While Steve Nash racked up a couple MVPs and led the Phoenix Suns to deep post-season runs, Shawn Marion held them together with hustle, defence and an explosive vertical. The unsung hero flew under the radar — that is until he used the media as a sounding board for his discontent. Throughout his tenure with the Suns, Marion requested more shots, more points and even bigger money. Now that he plays with the Miami Heat, his stats have plummeted and those Marion jerseys aren't exactly flying off the rack. Looks like he needed Nash more than he realized.

2. Steve Francis

For those of you who are confused, Steve Francis is still a professional basketball player. The once-loved Stevie Franchise started multiple all-star contests alongside former Houston Rockets teammate Yao Ming and won over fans with his cross-over and high-flying dunks. Once the advertising face of Reebok, Francis' career took

an immediate downturn when he joined the Isaiah Thomas-helmed New York Knicks. Back in 1999, the Vancouver Grizzlies drafted Francis out of college, who later refused to play in Canada. Just think of his recent struggles as retribution for those Grizzlies fans — all six of them.

1. Ben Wallace

Long considered to be the heart and soul of the Detroit Pistons tough-nosed defence, this undrafted and under-sized centre jumped out to a mid-career renaissance behind hustle, muscle and a killer afro. But after bolting Detroit for a \$60 million contract with the Chicago Bulls, Wallace's trademark blue-collar approach to basketball faded under the security of eight-digit annual incomes. Now a centre with the Cleveland Cavaliers, his popularity has taken a nosedive. Once a vote-in all-star, this season Wallace trails most centres on early voting returns — including the Wizards' Brendan Haywood, who hasn't even played this year. Don't forget that his jump shot is about as solid as your six-year-old nephew's. Well, at least he has sweet hair.

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Reign can't dampen surging Victoria Salmon Kings

Philippe Granger

The Victoria Salmon Kings are currently on a 15-game winning streak and now hold the ECHL record for most consecutive wins in regulation.

Not a team to take matters lightly, Victoria dismantled the visiting Ontario Reign during the two-game series last weekend.

The Vikes women's field hockey team attended last Friday night's Salmon Kings game as special guests to honour their record-tying 11th McRae Cup. UVic's captain Ali Lee dropped the puck to kick off the two-game series.

The Vikes cheering presence in the stands must have energized the home side as the Salmon Kings scored three quick goals within 1:11 of each other, halfway through the first period. Their goaltender Jonathan Boutin was in fine form as he held off a number of Reign attacks.

The contrasts between the first and second periods were night and day, however, as Ontario potted two goals in the second period to come back within one.

"I thought we played a little complacent," said Salmon Kings coach Mark Morrison after the game. "We got up 3-0 and then they came at us in the second real hard. We had it in our zone pretty much the whole second period."

Victoria settled the pace of the game in the third period after they killed off a crucial two-man advantage.

Oliver Filion, who finished with three assists, commented on his side's performance.

"We had [Tim Wedderburn, defenseman and alternate captain], who blocked like five shots out on the 5-on-3, and it was nice to see guys like that throwing their bodies in front of the puck," said Filion. "That's how you win hockey games right now."

The game's momentum shifted back to the Salmon Kings after the 5-on-3 penalty kill. Despite the Reign's extra attacker after goaltender John Murray skated to the bench with two minutes left in the game, Ontario could not tie it up with the man-advantage. With an empty net, Victoria captain Wes Goldie and Darryl Lloyd both scored their second goals of the game.

After the game, Wedderburn spoke of how his team would improve in Saturday's rematch.

"They're a good strong defensive team and we need to make sure we don't give out turnovers," he said.

Turnovers were kept to a minimum during Saturday night's match-up, as goaltender Julien Ellis got the nod for Victoria, replacing Boutin in the net.

Ontario started the game with an early goal on the power-play as a point shot bounced off the end boards onto Reign's Itan Chavira's stick and into an open net, catching Ellis out of position.

Sean O'Connor put Victoria on the board after scoring his 10th



SANDRA MINARIK PHOTO

The Salmon Kings won their 15th-straight game against the Ontario Reign this past weekend.

of the season by tipping Wedderburn's point shot past Murray, two minutes into the second period. ECHL leading scorer Goldie sniped his 32nd after receiving the puck from linemate Filion. A mere 16 seconds later, Olivier Labelle extended the surging Salmon Kings lead with a tip-in from another Wedderburn point shot. Patrick Coulombe, who is in the third and final year of his Vancouver Canucks contract, jammed home a rebound

for his third goal of the season. The Salmon Kings were leading 4-1 after two periods of play.

The Reign would try to spark a comeback with a goal from Chris Curran early in the third period to make it 4-2, but the Salmon Kings were too much to handle.

Canucks prospect Dan Gendur threw a little salt in the wound as the clock wore out by scoring into the open net to make it a 5-2 final.

When asked about the winning

streak, Filion offered his thoughts.

"We're here to win hockey games for us and for the fans but we have to stop thinking about it and we have to go out there and just play our game," Filion said.

The Salmon Kings now hop on the bus for six games over two series — three games in Alaska and three in Las Vegas. The next Victoria home game will be against the Stockton Thunder on Jan. 27 at the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre.

Winter Classic kicks off

Jin Mullen

Getting a jump on "stay active" New Years resolutions wasn't difficult for soccer players taking part in the Bays United Indoor Winter Classic, held at Oak Bay Rec Centre from Jan. 5 to 11. The round-robin tournament guaranteed each team four games, and a high level of competition.

"This tournament was definitely beneficial for players coming back from their Christmas breaks," said Conan Pagan who plays for the Gordon Head Soccer Association.

"This tournament is a week prior to my next official soccer game. Even though indoor soccer is different to regular soccer, it still gives players some exercise."

Each game was played on Oak Bay Rec Centre's artificial turf. The men's division was composed of four leagues, while the women's division was composed of two — all based on levels of competition and age restrictions. Several divisions featured a number of UVic students currently playing in the local Vancouver Island Soccer League.

The tournament's structure allowed for unlimited substitutions during the two 16-minute halves that made up each game. The competition was tight, with

roughly three teams in close pursuit of first place.

The tournament adopted FIFA soccer rules, with exceptions including extra out-of-bounds areas (such as the roof or any dividing curtain), the fact that slide tackles were not permitted and the fact that the referee's decisions were final and there would be no appeal process.

"The tournament was run pretty efficiently," said Pagan. "However, a team did not show up, which created fewer teams to play against. They could have been harder on registration, but there were a fair amount of teams in about six divisions."

Overall, most considered the tournament a success.

"[It] offered something to do because there was a break in this soccer season," said Pagan. "It was hard to find a good pick-up soccer game."

Lakers 2 took home top honours for the Men's Competitive Division, while Prospect Lake Prem took home the honours in the Women's Competitive Division.

Dirty Sanchez took home the gold in the Men's Recreational Division with Gordon Head 2 winning the Women's Recreational. The Fernwood Dragons captured the Men's Over-35 title, while Henderson walked away with the Men's Over-48 title.

All-Star game primed for disappointment

Steve Lancashire

In what should be a showcase of its' brightest stars, the NHL All-Star game has had an annual tradition of being an extreme letdown.

With the 2009 All-Star game being held in Montreal as a part of the Canadiens' centennial celebration, league officials have been working hard to make it memorable.

Gone are the days when the Stanley Cup Champions would face-off against an All-Star team comprised of star players from the other squads.

That tradition ended during the 1968 season when the East-West format was introduced to promote the NHL's six new franchises. Since the change in format, the league has tried its best to expose the game's greatest stars to a broader audience. The All-Star game was intended to be the second biggest event of the season, right behind the Stanley Cup Finals.

But the All-Star game has stumbled in recent years, drawing negative reviews from both fans and media alike.

One of the predominant criticisms of the game is the lack of intensity.

Unlike the Major League Baseball All-Star game, there is no incentive for your conference to win the game. In baseball, the winning league gains home-field advantage for the World Series.

In recent years, the problem hasn't been with the game itself. Attention is now being placed on the selection of the All-Star rosters, and their tendency for excluding some of the game's brightest stars.

The recently named All-Star teams of both the Eastern and Western Conferences have arguably improved over previous years,

but still remain contradictory to the league's goal of showcasing its top players.

One of the problems is the on-line fan balloting system used to determine the starting line-ups. Fans are given the opportunity to vote online for their choice of players to start the game, and thus far, the system has failed miserably by allowing fans unlimited votes to stuff the ballot box.

For the 2009 edition of the All-Star classic, the 12 starters from the Eastern and Western Conference are representing four teams: the Chicago Blackhawks, Anaheim Ducks, Pittsburgh Penguins and Montreal Canadiens. Among these teams, none are higher than fourth place in their conference.

With all due respect to fans of the Canadiens and their centennial celebration, Alexei Kovalev, Carey Price, Andrei Markov and Mike Komisarek do not all deserve to be in the starting line-up, let alone the players of the sought-after All-Star game.

Alexander Ovechkin of the Washington Capitals is arguably the most exciting player in the NHL. Because of fan balloting, Kovalev received more votes and will start the game.

Meanwhile, Komisarek is one of the premier shut-down defencemen in the NHL and any team could use his grit and character. To date, Komisarek has three points, a plus/minus of three, and has only played in 24 hockey games. His selection as a starter for the All-Star team does not reflect the league's interest.

"There are some stars but it's not all the stars," said Washington Capitals goaltender Jose Theodore. "The league should really review the system."

Ever since the NHL's lockout wiped out the 2004-2005 sea-

son, the league and commissioner Gary Bettman have been trying to increase interest in the U.S. by doing everything in their power to boost scoring in a once defence-oriented league.

Everything has been done to increase scoring, from reducing the size of goaltending equipment to increasing the amount of penalties called in a game.

The All-Star game should be the NHL's chance to show how they have improved the league by inviting elite players.

Because of their fan balloting system and team representation policy, however, some of hockey's best and most talented players have been left out.

Chicago's captain Jonathan Toews was voted in as starter, but has had less-than-stellar numbers to otherwise warrant consideration.

Players having the better statistical seasons include Patrick Marleau, Daniel Sedin and Ales Hemsky.

Roberto Luongo, the franchise goaltender for the Vancouver Canucks has not played since late November after suffering a groin injury, yet was still selected into the All-Star line-up. Mikka Kiprusoff of the Calgary Flames, and Steve Mason of the Columbus Blue Jackets have both had stellar seasons, but are both excluded because every team in the league needs to be represented.

If the NHL wants the All-Star game to be a celebration of hockey, they need to ensure that its top stars are there to put on a show for the audience.

As of right now, the full potential of the All-Star game won't be met while some of the league's top players get a week off instead of participating in marketing the NHL to a broader audience.

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The Martlet Crossword

by Niko Skartvedt

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ACROSS

- 1 You might draw them for order
5 Richard Starkey became one
10 In the distance
14 Ambience
15 Bears or blind mice
16 Character
17 Raced
18 Paraphrase
19 Lukewarm
20 It is ironic to have a moratorium on this
23 Ring of flowers
24 Scottish for 'own'
25 Risings
29 Slightly opaque
33 Exclamations from Homer
34 18 year period of eclipses
36 Unnecessarily complicated unit of distance
37 Applicability
38 Showed the way
39 Aries's avatar
40 Flip (as in through a book)
42 Bird-like
44 Stubborn senator of Rome who opposed Gaius Julius Caesar
45 Gain access to
47 James Bond now counts these in quanta
49 Negative, colloquially
50 Indian bread

- 51 Advice to one who is violently against vegetables
60 Songs
61 The revenging Montoya
62 Penn or Connerly
63 Commonly confused with fewer
64 Often a metaphor for rage or madness
65 Try, as in limits or patience
66 Fruit from a palm tree in Africa

- and the Middle East
67 Single's tennis?
68 Alternative schools can specialize in these

DOWN

- 1 Final
2 Klutz or clumsy fairy
3 Goes with family
4 Prepares for departure

solution, tips and computer programs at www.sudoku.com

su | do | ku

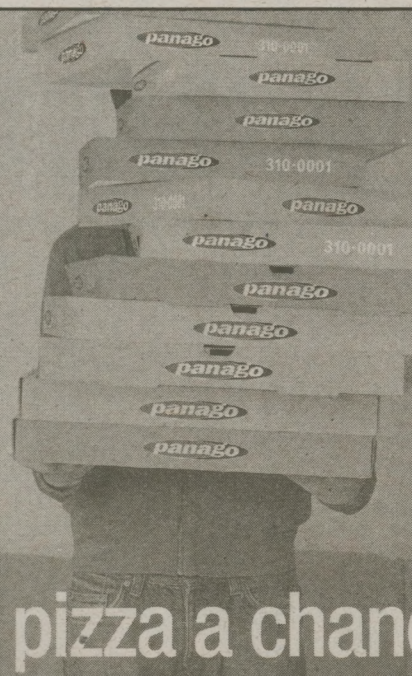
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	8		7					
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				5		9		

- 5 They can be dire
6 Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, as opposed to the elevated rail in Chicago
7 Part of the foot
8 What to do after you sow
9 Withdraw (as in a command)
10 Secret knowledge of alchemists
11 Usually the wisest person in the room
12 Often misspelled as one word
13 Depend
21 Not odd, poetically
22 One of two guardians of Buddha
25 Matured, theoretically
26 Body of water East of China, as known by Korea, for short
27 Little value
28 Volley
29 Endings, in music
30 Paul of quantum physics
31 Make happy
32 Visual explanations, for short

- 35 Store specializing in outdoor gear headquartered in Kent, WA, for short
41 Style and ability
42 One not believing in organized religion
43 Some officers in the military, briefly
44 A card game played with two decks and two teams where a team tries to gather seven of one number
46 Reprieve
48 A note to follow sol
51 It can be black in Texas
52 Associated with a light bulb
53 Garment
54 It can be upped
55 Common suffix
56 Prefix meaning 'field'
57 Will not happen, poetically
58 Fill multiple 16 across
59 Creatures of Tolkien

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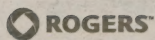


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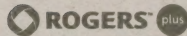
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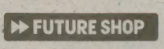
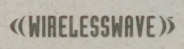
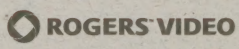
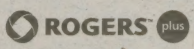
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ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

Library Research 101

12:30 - 1 p.m.

McPherson Library, 130

By the end of this workshop you will be able to critically explore your topic by identifying authoritative sources that provide an overview of your topic; effectively gather relevant information on your topic by analyzing various sources available through the UVic Libraries; and confidently conclude your research by clearly presenting your research results.

Fee: Free

Info: Pia Russell

liblearn@uvic.ca

Motor Learning and Automaticity

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Medical Sciences Building, 160

Dr. Mark Hallett, MD. A senior investigator at the Human Motor Control Section of Medical Neurology Branch at the National Institute of Health - NIH/NIHDS, will discuss Motor learning and Automaticity.

Fee: Free

Info: Marjorie Wilder

250-472-4067

cfbr@uvic.ca

In Search of Lost Time: Cameron Ian MacLeod (1958-1983)

All Day

McPherson Library Gallery

The McPherson Library Gallery presents an exhibit of recently acquired works by Cameron Ian MacLeod, a student of such influential painters as Jack Shadbolt, Gordon A. Smith, and Takao Tanabe.

Fee: Free

Info: 250-721-6562

maltpub@finearts.uvic.ca

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

Finding a Place for Letters: The Douglas Goldring Fonds, Mary Butts, and Some Ideas on Place

3 - 4 p.m.

McPherson Library, A003

Joel Hawkes (Bristol University) will be giving a seminar-style talk examining the correspondence of Butts and Goldring held in UVic Special Collections. Hawkes concludes that the letters furnish more than just biographical or antiquarian detail, giving us a greater sense of Butts's experience of place.

Fee: Free

Info: J. Allan Mitchell

250-721-7236

amitch@uvic.ca

Women's Basketball

6 p.m.

McKinnon Gym

Manitoba vs. UVic.

Fee: UVic Students

Free

Info: vikes@uvic.ca

Men's Basketball

8 p.m.

McKinnon Gym

Manitoba vs UVic.

Fee: UVic Students

Free

Info: vikes@uvic.ca

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

Women's Basketball

5 p.m.

McKinnon Gym

Winnipeg vs. UVic.

Fee: UVic Students

Free

Info: vikes@uvic.ca

Men's Basketball

7 p.m.

McKinnon Gym

Winnipeg vs UVic.

Fee: UVic Students

Free

Info: vikes@uvic.ca

Life Drawing

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Visual Arts Building, A150

\$5 drop in fee. Please contact Suzanne at sbean@uvic.ca for further information. Open to the public. All skill levels welcome!

Fee: \$5

Info: sbean@uvic.ca

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

29th Annual Art Education Faculty Exhibition

All Day

McPherson Library Gallery

As teachers and artists, the 19 participants in the exhibition reveal an intimate and wide range of creative ideas and talents that deal with social, environmental and technological issues.

Fee: Free

Info: 250-721-6562

maltpub@

finearts.uvic.ca

Google 101

12:30 - 1 p.m.

McPherson Library, 130

This workshop will help you learn to search effectively in both Google and Google Scholar; understand when to use Google Scholar versus a library database; locate the full-text versions of articles; and learn about Google Book.

Drop-ins are welcome, space permitting.

Fee: Free

Info: Pia Russell

liblearn@uvic.ca

When Religion Goes Bad: The religious dynamic in an age of violence and intolerance

4:30 - 6 p.m.

McLauren Building, David Lam theatre

This address is the key note to three panel discussions, for more information please go to the website below.

Fee: Free

Info: Henri Lock

250-721-8338

chaplain@uvic.ca

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

Find Articles using UVic Libraries Quick Search

12:30 - 1 p.m.

McPherson Library, 130

Quick Search allows you to search multiple article databases at one time. Learn to execute a simple search using "Quick Search," locate full-text articles and execute a simple search using the "Quick Search" quick sets and customized search features.

Drop ins welcome, space permitting.

Fee: Free

Info: Pia Russell

liblearn@uvic.ca

Leaving a Life of Political Violence: A Neo-Nazi Steigt Aus

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Cornett Building, A317

A discussion of the implications and problems of political violence for individual and collective identity through an analysis of the practices of the self deployed in the autobiographical account of Ingo Hasselbach, a militant Neo-Nazi who takes leave of the German Neo-Nazi movement and a life of violence.

Fee: Free

Info: Zoe Lu

250-721-7572

zoec@uvic.ca

Jesus and the Golden Thread

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Engineering Computer Science Building, 124

This lecture will trace the development of labyrinth imagery and its meaning from apostolic times to the later middle ages, and will be of particular interest to those desiring to deepen their understanding of the contemporary use of the labyrinth.

Fee: Free

Info: CSRS

250-721-6325

csrs@uvic.ca

LIVE CONCERTS

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

Open Turntables with Jess Taylor @ The Cambie at the Esquimalt Inn

9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

You've got a lonely collection of vinyl — from hand-me-down gems to the most current collection of hardcore Electro. Maybe your coming with a laptop.... We've got the Technics turntables, Serato, atmosphere, and cheap Cambie prices to turn your bedroom DJ dreams into reality. Just bring down a half hour's worth of vinyl and some friends to witness your "debut"; signups start at 9 pm, the spinning continues till Cambie closes at 1:30. (No Minors).

Fee: Free

AFL, Frame, Gobe, Rhythmicon, Patience Automate, Generic @ Hush

10 p.m. - 2 a.m., doors at 10 p.m.

This is a fund raiser for various agencies in Victoria that are supporting the underprivileged/homeless. Please bring down a nonperishable food item and/or some wearable used clothing to help out. (No Minors).

Fee: \$5

Kenzie Clarke @ Lucky Bar

10 p.m.

Kenzie Clarke (Bitchin Beats/Victoria) hosts a weekly full of hooks, beats, diva vocals, handclaps & basslines. (No Minors).

Fee: \$5

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

EWB Rock for Change Party @ Velox Rugby Clubhouse

8 p.m. - 2 a.m., doors at 7 p.m.

A night of awesome live bands and DJ's, dancing, hanging, and all around great fun! All profits go as fundraising towards the UVic EWB Chapter.

Located at Velox Rugby Clubhouse, near the Ian Stewart Complex, corner of McKenzie & Gordon Head

\$10 gets you entrance and one draw entry for a fabulous Fair Trade prize! \$1 per additional draw ticket

Fee: \$10

HARRIS GILMORE & THE MOJOS @ Bartholomews

9 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

(No Minors).

Fee: Free

Ghosts, Cartographers of the Early 21st Century, 'It It, balacade @ Logan's Pub

10 p.m. - 1 a.m., doors at 9 p.m.

(No Minors).

Fee: \$8

Alboa Alboa @ The Superior

7 - 10 p.m., doors at 5 p.m.

Ambient jazzy originals with a groovy Spanish twist. (All Ages).

Fee: By donation

(\$5 suggested)

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

Kathleen Edwards, Dustin Bentall @ Alix Goolden Performance Hall

7 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place, Ditch Records & CDs, ticketweb.ca. (All Ages).

Fee: \$20

Harris Gilmore and the Mojoes @ Bartholomews

9 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

(No Minors).

Fee: Free

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ENGLISH TUTOR FOR help with ESL and essay writing. Bente, 592-8340, bentels@shaw.ca

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS from Jan 7 - 31. Learn dances from around the world. Join Saanich International Folk Dancers Wednesdays for instruction at Glen Lyon School, 1701 Beach Drive and Fridays at Fairfield United Church, 1303 Fairfield Road at 7:30. No partner or experience needed. Please wear soft-soled shoes. Drop-in \$5 (\$4.00 for students, under 12 free). Phone 250-598-6424 or 250-598-4089 or 250-590-5066 (Wed).

BC SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ASSOCIATION: MONTHLY MEETING Monday, Jan. 19, 7 - 9 p.m., at Burnside Gorge Community Centre | 471 Cecelia Rd. Victoria.

Guillaume Mauger presents the latest on clouds and their effect on climate; and discuss geoengineering projects that have been proposed for altering the climate and Trevor Williams presents his research on plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and investigations into flying with biofuels.

Looking to work abroad this summer?

Friday, Jan. 23, 3 - 6 p.m., David Strong C112. AIESEC, the world's largest student-run organization, is the international platform for young people to discover and develop their potential so as to make a positive impact in society. Over 5,000 international internships available each year in development, education, technical and management. Opportunities to volunteer and develop skills in leadership, finance, marketing, human resources, communications and event planning, including volunteering for UVic's Annual Career Fair. email: aiesec@uvic.ca. Office: Cornett A150, www.aiesec.ca/victoria.

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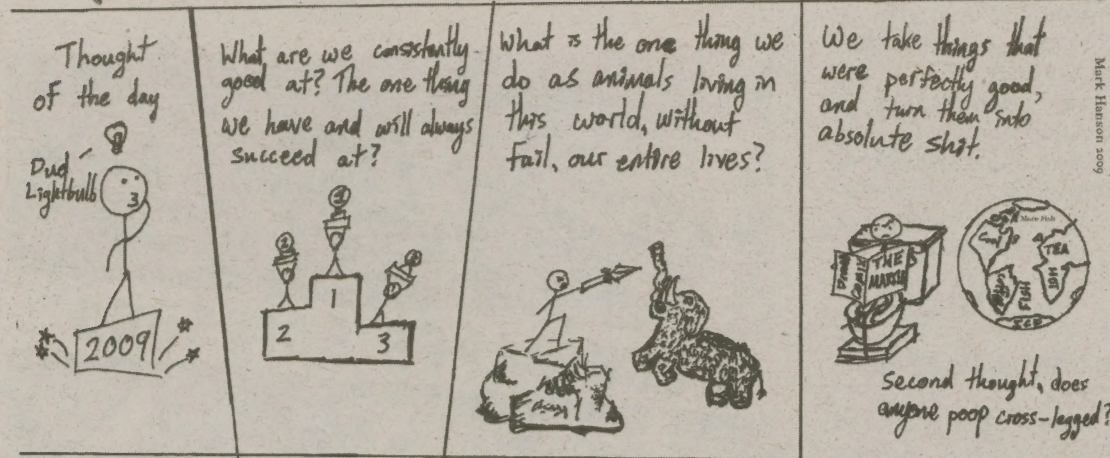


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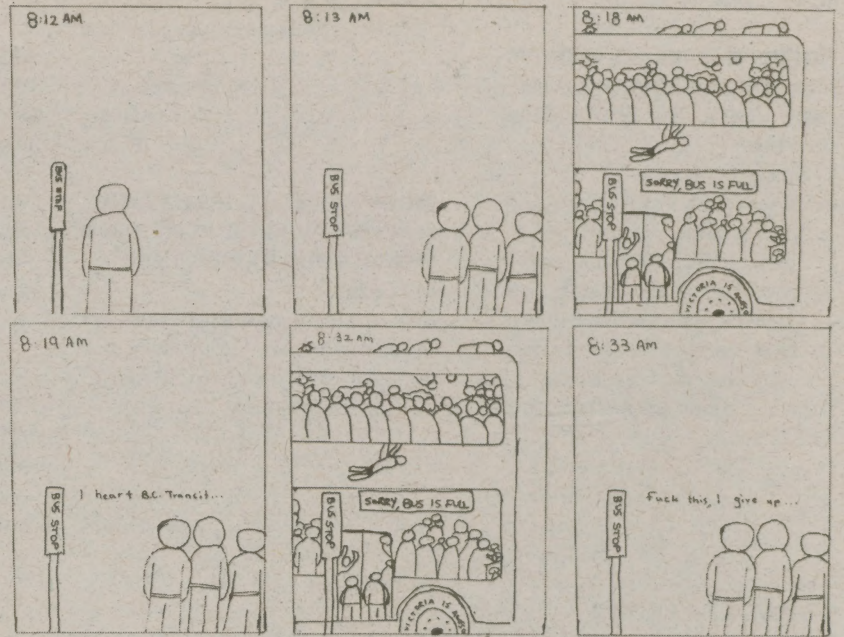
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